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G. Beauclerk pinxit. On Stone by Giles

A young Caid, an elderly one, and a Soldier of the Aâouais.

Printed by Engelmann, Graf, Coindet & Co.

A

JOURNEY TO MAROCCO,

In 1826.

BY CAPTAIN G. BEAUCLERK,

TENTH INFANTRY.

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THIS WORK IS DEDICATED BY

CAPT. G. BEAUCLERK,

AN ADMIRER, AND LATELY A SHARER, OF ITS LASTING HONOURS.

TO THE OFFICERS OF THE 23RD REGIMENT, OR ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS.

MY DEAR BROTHER OFFICERS,

PERMIT me from feelings of personal attachment to you, and of pride at having been bred a soldier beneath the colours of so pre-eminently distinguished a corps as the Royal Welch Fusiliers, to dedicate to your friendly patronage the following pages.

Convinced as I feel, of the reciprocity of our attachment, I shall, without awaiting your consent, present you with the first-born of my pen, though I do not require you, in your situation as godfathers, to be answerable for its errors, until its merits or demerits are confirmed by the public, or until it has arrived at years of discretion, and is fit to go alone; an indefinitude of age both in books and men, which would prove very detrimental to the peace of patrons and godfathers.

As a soldier and a friend, I am, at all events, more likely to find favour in the eyes of my profession, as I trust your partiality will grant me many indulgencies, which I can hardly hope for from a more severe tribunal. But let my sentence in the court of criticism be what it may, it will be ample compensation for the pains of writing my journal to find that I have succeeded in pleasing you, though but a slight return for the many acts of kindness for which I must ever remain your insolvent, but truly attached and grateful debtor.

G. BEAUCLERK.

Cork, December 1, 1827.

PREFACE.

In venturing to appear before the Public in the new character I have assumed, in despite of the many alarming predictions of those whose spirit of adventure is guided by grandmama's careful admonitions, to "look well before you leap," and "never to get wet feet," neither of which are very likely to help you over a ditch, I deem it necessary to make an apology, first, to the above mentioned ladies for my neglect of their very *dry* and wholesome advice; and secondly to my readers, for what may at first sight appear a still bolder adventure, namely, my undertaking to tread in the foot-steps of that correct writer of Travels, Ali Bey, who has not only reaped the harvest before him, but *gleaned* it too so carefully, that hardly anything remains for me to tell but "The tale of a Straw."

Induced, however, by a wish to detail what I consider interesting or useful to a country in close alliance of friendship with the States of Marocco, not to say any thing of that feeling of literary vanity *all* have, but *few dare* to own, I have determined, as the vulgar expression is, "to put my foot in it," contrary to the above maternal injunc-

tions, hoping that if I do alight in the mire, I shall still find a passing friend who will again set me on my legs, knowing however, that there are also some who will not scruple to push me deeper in. Notwithstanding the mysterious inconsistency of Ali Bey's profession of Ishmailism, and his complete exposition of all that a Mahometan holds sacred and concealed from the eyes of an unbeliever, even to the holy relic,* of which he talks in such veneration, with an exclamation of wonder, "at the wisdom of divine Providence in thus enriching (by the donations of devotees) one whole family, by a single tuft of hair," the strictest reliance may be placed in the truth of his narrative concerning those parts of Marocco through which I have travelled, where his name is well known. The authenticity of this part of his work is of consequence, more on account of his eastern travels, than those in Marocco. Besides the *disadvantages* of having to avoid repeating whatever he may have detailed, which I have strictly endeavoured to do, (except indeed where my view of any thing has differed from his) I have also to contend against *those* of long-suffering from ill-health, during my residence in Barbary, and the want of that finished educa-

* Mahomet's hair shewn at Constantinople as a relic.—*Vide Ali Bey's Travels.*

tion which my errant style of life has prevented my attaining. At the early age of thirteen, I exchanged the pen, or rather uncut quill, for the sword, and during the last nine years, I have had the honour to serve his Majesty in two different services, in various parts of the globe. Hope not, therefore, reader, to be rocked into an easy slumber by long and learned quotations from profane writers, tending to prove what can alone be interesting to dusty book-worms and musty antiquarians; but, if you are content to accompany me in my vagaries as a citizen of the world, and take the rough and smooth as it may occur, jump up behind me on my mule's back; his paces are irregular, 'tis true, but though he may often stumble, I trust we shall find that he reaches his journey's end without falling to the ground.

JOURNEY TO MAROCCO.

CHAPTER I.

The Object of the Mission. — Arrival at Tangiers.

The Sultan of Marocco having, in July 1826, made application to the Lieutenant-Governor of Gibraltar for medical assistance, Dr. Brown, of the Royal Medical Staff, was appointed to this service.

As the Sultan had written to Sir George Don, the Lieutenant-Governor, under his own hand, (through Mr. Bennoliel, a Jewish agent, and a man of great wealth and respectability at Gibraltar,) it was supposed that the urgency of the request was to be attributed, either to some serious illness under which the Sultan himself laboured, or to the fact of his being engaged in some war, which would render medical assistance valuable. Dr. Brown, therefore, prepared to depart with all possible despatch; and having received Sir George Don's permission for two officers of the garrison to accompany him on his mission, he invited for that purpose Captain Beale, of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and Mr.

Murray, of the sixty-fourth regiment. Owing, however, to the shortly-expected departure of another mission from Naples, for Marocco, as well as to some private business which demanded his presence at Gibraltar, Captain Beale chose rather to avail himself of the opportunity of accompanying the latter mission at a later period. Partly, therefore, to these circumstances, but more, perhaps, to Captain Beale's personal kindness, am I indebted for that cession of his right in my favour, which has enabled me to present the following pages to the Public. The suffering and fatigue which we afterwards underwent, prevent me from feeling regret that my friend's kindness should have been the means of ultimately depriving him of the power of following us.

Being supplied with all things necessary for our journey, with that liberality for which the heads of our government departments are so conspicuous, and which, throughout every branch of the state, conduces, in so eminent a degree, to the effectual accomplishment of all British undertakings, we only awaited a westerly breeze to transport us to Tetuan, on the Barbary coast, whence we were to proceed to Marocco. A Levant wind springing up, however, on the morning of our intended departure, we resolved to alter our course, and make for Tangiers; and we embarked on board our felucca, accordingly, on the morning of the 18th of July. We had now to submit to the censurable delay for which Mediterranean mariners are

proverbial; and it was not until about two o'clock p. m. that two fresh passengers came on board in the persons of two Moors: the one a resident merchant at Gibraltar, El Hadge Hadoud Kissouse, proceeding to Rabat, his birth-place, on business: and the other, a suitor from Madrid; where, poor simple soul, he had been vainly endeavouring to obtain redress from the Spanish government, for an injury done to the Sultan by the capture of one of his Highness's vessels, by a piratically-inclined *Guarda Costa*, or custom-house vessel.

We at length got under weigh, but the Levant wind dying away, we were taken aback by a slight south-easter from the Straits, before we had reached Cabrita Point, and to avoid being back-strapped,* we were compelled to stand for the anchorage. Towards the middle of the night,

* A term used by sailors to express one of the most annoying dilemmas in which our homeward-bound vessels can be placed. Ships sailing from Gibraltar with a light westerly wind, should be cautious to hug well the Spanish coast, until they have cleared the bay; for if they stand out into the eternal in-running current of the Straits, and then lose the wind, or get taken aback by a westerly one, their doom is inevitable: away they go; carried at the mercy of the current behind the rock towards Malaga; whence they cannot return until a strong Levanter come to their aid. A delay of four or five weeks is the penalty frequently paid by neglectful or presumptuous captains of vessels, who, if unacquainted with the station, are sure to fall victims to their self-sufficiency, and neglect of good advice. The safest plan to follow, is to remain in harbour until the westerly wind is a confirmed one, as it often comes on for three or four hours only, as though for the purpose of playing the sailors a trick, and enticing them from their anchors.

the Levant wind again enticed us from the harbour, and deserted us again at three o'clock in the morning; but after making use of our sweeps in shore, we anchored, at four o'clock, within two miles and a half of Tarrifa light-house.

We had left Gibraltar in full expectation of ending our voyage before daylight the next day, and having, consequently, come away unprovided with the necessary provisions for a longer passage, our boat was hoisted out, and despatched to Tarrifa for a supply. On approaching the town, we were hailed by a smart gentleman in a pink waistcoat, flourishing a gold-headed rattan, when the following colloquy ensued: — "Where are you from?" "Gibraltar: bound to Tangiers; having on board English officers proceeding to the court of Marocco." "What do you want here?" "Fresh provisions for a day, and liberty to land for a few hours." "You cannot do the latter, as there is a quarantine of eight days from Gibraltar, but the provisions shall be supplied you, on promise of payment of two dollars harbour-dues." Against this, however, our captain loudly exclaimed, as an imposition of "Pink Waistcoat's," as his vessel was anchored in the Straits, far from Tarrifa harbour. It happened, fortunately, that Mr. Murray had but lately left Cadiz, where he had become very intimate with the officers of the French garrison, one of whom was Governor of of the garrison of Tarrifa, to whom he sent a note, by a French corporal standing on the beach, requesting permission to land. In a short time

our dunning friend of the customs returned with the corporal, and apprised us we had leave to land; accompanying this intimation with sundry hints about the two dollars, to which no one seemed anxious to pay any attention. The French commandant, a tall handsome young man, received us with great courtesy, and pressed us to stay to dinner, which, however, we declined, as we intended only awaiting the return of the eddy-tide to sweep our felucca farther to windward. After a short conversation, therefore, we took our leave, and the commandant's aid-de-camp, a young officer of most pleasing manners and appearance, attended us to the victualler of the troops, who supplied us, by his order, with the necessary provisions, which were prepared for us whilst we partook of some refreshment with the officers. We then returned to the beach, and, having thanked our kind providers, pushed off in our boat for the felucca. Here I cannot help bearing testimony to that very gentleman-like and ready politeness which so distinguishes a French military man; and to those at Tarrifa, in particular, I beg leave, in the name of my companions, to offer our sincerest thanks for the kind attentions we experienced on this occasion.

No sooner were we in the boat, than our sailors complained to us that a Spanish *Guarda Costa* had gone alongside of the felucca in our absence, under pretence of searching her for tobacco, the captain of her declaring that he would not leave her until he had searched our baggage, and in-

sisting on one of his own men accompanying our sailors in the boat which had come to convey us to the felucca. Hereupon they pointed to a half-starved ragged-looking fellow sitting in the bow of the boat, whom I asked, if he thought he could swim from the felucca to the shore. The fellow seemed as much alarmed at this question as if I had been in the very act of throwing him overboard; and when taxed by the Genoese boatmen with piracy, he frankly acknowledged that his companions and he were often obliged to rob vessels, as "the king of Spain was but an indifferent paymaster."

This confession was rather alarming. I therefore inquired the number and strength of our visitors, which I found to consist of nine men, armed with one six-pounder, and a few rusty old muskets; and then addressing our Genoese in French, I bade them prepare for resistance in case of need, representing to them that we were thirty in all, having superior arms, and that all we had to fear was the possibility of the vessel pushing off, and making use of her swivel, which a hammer and nail would easily render impracticable. Our crew readily acquiesced in the propriety of what I said, and indeed seemed anxious to convince us in what slight estimation they held the Spaniards.

Thus determined, we soon reached the felucca, along side of which lay the *Guarda Costa*, with two men only in her, the rest being on board our vessel. As I jumped on board, I observed a

Spaniard standing near the companion, whom, with no little inclination to throw the fellow overboard first, and then expostulate with him, I thus addressed :—" Who are you ?" " Captain of the *Guarda Costa,* Senor," replied he. " What is your business here, then?" " I thought you were a smuggler, and therefore came on board to search for tobacco." " Well," said I, " you are, I presume, now convinced of your error; and as to your examining our baggage, look at this red coat, and at the English ensign waving over your head, and then search at your peril." So saying I retired below, and having loaded my pistols, returned on deck, and asked the captain of the *Guarda Costa* what papers he could exhibit in proof of his not being a pirate. To this he replied by producing a bill of health, dated three days back, from the Health Office at Cadiz. " Now," said I, " do you not see that we should be fully justified in looking upon you as a pirate, and as such, in throwing you overboard ?" The captain seemed at length greatly alarmed at the turn which the conversation was taking, and strenuously protested his innocence, as a proof of which he pointed to a larger vessel to the eastward, to which he was attached. I then quietly told him to leave the felucca immediately, and that, as I much questioned his right to board any vessel under English colours, for the purposes which he had avowed, I should take the earliest opportunity of reporting the circumstances to his government through the Spanish consul at Tan-

giers. He then only begged that our captain would give him a certificate of his not having done him any injury, and this request being acceded to, he jumped on board his own vessel, and pulled away. It was at this time a perfect calm, so that, had we captured the *Guarda Costa*, the larger vessel in the offing might have come to her assistance: but had there been a good breeze at the time, we might have easily carried her off to Tangiers as a prize, in which I imagine we should have been perfectly justified. The *Guarda Costa* had no sooner left us, than we observed him of the waistcoat waving to us from the beach, and calling to our boat, for the payment of the two dollars harbour-dues before-mentioned. Our captain seemed, at first, disposed peremptorily to refuse compliance with this exaction; but observing signals making to the other vessel in the offing, he deemed it more prudent to submit with a good grace.

Having again weighed anchor, we succeeded, by the help of the eddy-tide and our sweeps, in reaching Tarrifa anchorage, where, as we had now paid the dues, we determined to await the springing up of the night breeze. The evening was one of those delicious specimens of nature's repose, which we often witness in southern climes. All the elements lay hushed in peaceful unison; the most perfect tranquillity prevailed around; and the fiery orb of heaven sat enthroned in the blue ethereal, in unclouded majesty of brightness. The glassy mirror of the Straits reflected on

either side the mighty herculean pillars, on whose rugged heads the departing sun was shedding his rosy light, while the deep ravines and valleys below were darkening into purple shades. Near us lay the town of Tarrifa, sloping from the heights to the water's edge, and surrounded by an ancient Moorish wall, turreted at irregular distances; while groups of young girls were bathing and sporting in the water, in primitive innocence, unheeding the distant gaze of men, whose good breeding in this country prevents their too near approach on these occasions. Modesty consists not in mere outward forms, nor the breach of it in the performance of that which in one country is considered indecorous, and in others is naturalized by custom. Throughout the whole of the Mediterranean this natural and healthy amusement is practised without any demoralizing effect, except, indeed, at Malta, where the promiscuous bathing of the two sexes takes place during the evening, and a greater part of the night, with bands of music attending in the boats.

The women of Tarrifa are very beautiful, partaking more than their country-women in general of that mixture of Moorish features so observable in all the inhabitants of the southern provinces of Spain. Following the custom of their semi-ancestors of the Moorish tribes, they still continue to veil their faces from public view when walking, shewing one eye only, which, however, has from habit learned to do very efficient duty for the

other, as well as for the mouth, though the use of the latter in Spain has become almost superfluous from the intelligent language of the fan. If then the fan even be eloquent, imagine the power of the rosy abode of speech, giving utterance to a language, the very offspring of romantic love!

The town of Tarrifa presents nothing beyond its female attractions, which can be deemed worthy of notice. It is commanded by the heights around, but fortified towards the sea by a long-tongued battery, stretching out into the Straits on a bed of rocks, at the end of which stands a light-house, supported by an inconsiderable tax levied on all vessels which have occasion to feel its beneficial effects. A light breeze springing up from the eastward at six o'clock, we weighed anchor for the last time, and passed Tarrifa light-house. As the refracted sun sank slowly into the western ocean before us, the wind freshened, and, at about ten o'clock, we cast anchor in Tangiers bay; but the gates of this town being always closed at sun-set, we were not able to disembark, and we therefore spread an awning on deck, and there laid ourselves down to rest, preferring the open air, to the stench of cockroaches in the cabin below. Early the following morning we obtained permission to land, and accordingly quitted our felucca, and hastened on shore, where we were kindly received, and entertained during our stay, by Mr. Douglass, the Consul-general for Marocco, who extends his hospitality, impartially, to all who visit Tangiers.

CHAPTER II.

Tangiers and its Vicinity Described. — A Visit to the Jews' Houses. — Account of the Paschal Dance, and of a National Military Recreation. — The Horses of Tangiers. — The Moorish Gun.

TANGIERS, or as the Moors call it Tangha, is but little remarkable from the sea. The similarity of the low, flat-roofed, white-washed houses, stretching one above another, like tombs, up the side of a hill, gives it a very monotonous appearance. It is situated on ground that forms a sort of amphitheatre; and on the heights to the north, stands the castle, an extensive ruin, inhabited by the Basha and the storks. The town boasts of no other public building worthy of notice, except the large mosque, which has a square minaret or tower, the exterior of which is prettily inlaid with small coloured glazed tiles, disposed in a variety of patterns.

In the course of the morning we waited on the Basha, who received us very courteously in an arched passage leading to his apartments. He is a tall handsome man, with a very intelligent countenance, and a soft polite address. He informed us that the mules which we should require for our journey would not be ready for three days,

as it would be necessary to send to Tetuan for them, whither they had been despatched for our use, under the idea that we should have disembarked at that place. He begged that in the meantime we would not scruple to ask for any thing we might require, which he assured us we should be immediately supplied with. The conversation then turned upon the state of his health, which he expressed hopes might be ameliorated by the doctor's assistance; but he afterwards confessed that he had never taken the pills which were sent him. We then took our leave, and on our arrival at the consulate, we found a Moor bearing us a present of a sheep, some fowls, eggs and wax-candles; which supply was sent us daily while we remained at Tangiers. On our road from the castle we were joined by our friend Hadge Hadoud Kissouse, with whom we had become very intimate in our passage from Gibraltar, and who, from his knowledge of the Spanish language, was extremely useful to us. He invited us to accompany him, in the evening of the following day, to the house of a friend of his, for the purpose of hearing some Moorish music; and it being our wish to see as much as possible of Moorish society, we promised to avail ourselves of his invitation. Meantime, to fill up the remainder of this day, Mr. Douglass having been kind enough to supply us with mules, we accompanied that gentleman in a ride which he took daily, and which afforded us the opportunity of seeing a little of the country. The soil in the immediate vicinity

of Tangiers, owing to its contiguity with the sea, is formed of a deep white sea-sand, which accumulates with great rapidity. It is here the inhabitants bury their dead, over whom the richer relatives of some of them raise small arched tombs. As we got further into the country, we found a rich, dark-coloured soil, bearing a most abundant crop of Indian wheat. Not a single tree was to be seen for miles, except at a few private gardens; but the ground rises and falls in soft undulations, and requires the addition of wood only, to make it a beautiful country. To this barrenness, however, there is one exception, about three miles from Tangiers, at a place called Mount Washington, so denominated from the circumstance of its having been tenanted and much improved by the Consul of the United States. This spot we did not at this time visit, but as I have myself seen it on a former occasion, I do not scruple to mention it here. It is a charming seclusion, richly wooded with a great variety of forest and fruit trees. The house has been permitted to fall to decay, but its situation commands a most extensive view of the Straits from end to end, with the bold mountainous shore of Spain in front. Close to the house is a spring of most excellent water, which nourishes a garden abounding with fruit; and the neighbouring hills are overrun with that beautiful shrub, the large white gum-cistus, which here, as well as in Spain, it is most difficult to eradicate. The Moors have no idea of sylvan scenery; the Basha might otherwise, at a very trifling expense, make this one

of the most enchanting places imaginable for summer retirement.

On the morning of the 18th July, we visited some of the Jews' houses. The interior of them is kept particularly clean, by means of continual white-washing, the dazzling brightness of which is very detrimental to the eye-sight. The floors of these residences are often paved with small coloured tiles, like those made in Holland; and the houses generally consist of four rooms, one story high only, built long and narrow, and so arranged as to inclose a small square yard. The doors are placed in the middle of the interior walls of the quadrangle, and act in the double capacity of doors and windows. At the ends of the rooms are ranged the beds on a raised wooden platform, and in the centre of the floor are mats made of coloured rushes, whereon sit, with their legs tucked up, the inmates of the houses. The Jews in Tangiers, unlike those in other towns in Barbary, live intermingled with the Moors. They for the most part have the benefit of a regular education, and generally acquire a very competent knowledge of the Spanish langage. Their women are kept under no restraint, and are exceedingly courteous to strangers. They have generally bad figures, but pretty faces; indeed many of them are very beautiful. Their complexion is high-coloured, but their skin very fair. The complexion of the Moorish women is of too dead a white to be pleasing, though their features are regular. They both paint the edges of their eye-

lids with black, which sets off the white of the eye to great advantage, and imparts a rich languid look to those already too bewitching weapons. Mr. Murray and myself were also looked upon as disciples of Æsculapius, and many was the fair round arm whose throbbing pulsation generally indicated a high state of fever beneath the pressure of our healing hands, whilst the rosy thermometer of the heart seldom failed to exhibit in the crimsoned cheek its sympathy for the imprisoned wrist.

On our return homewards after this visit, we were astonished at hearing a most uncouthly wild noise, and, on our arriving opposite the consul's house, we discovered a group of black men, dancing in the most fantastic manner, drawing up one leg close to the body, and then sinking quite down to the ground. The dance was accompanied by a song, and the music consisted of large double iron castanets, which each man played with his hand, and an earthen jar covered with sheep-skin, which served as a drum. It is impossible to conceive any thing more discordant to the ear than the din with which these negroes were, apparently, so much delighted. The moment they descried us coming up the street, they rushed up, and surrounding us, they danced away with all their might, and at a particular part of the air, they all sank down to the ground, and held out their hands for money. This application was immediately complied with, and, for myself, I was glad to get free of them at so cheap a rate; for,

to confess the truth, I felt rather nervous at being thus suddenly encircled by sixteen creatures, who in their appearance and ferocious manners more resembled demons than human beings. I was afterwards informed that it was in honour of the Paschal Feast, which had then just concluded, that these blacks danced about the streets.

In the evening we walked down to the beach, to witness a national amusement called the Lab el Barode, or the firing of powder. It is practised as follows. Mounted soldiers, in parties of five or six, gallop up and down a space of about two hundred yards, and fire off their long unwieldy guns, loaded with a large quantity of powder, for the purpose of producing a loud discharge. Quitting their hold on the bridle, which they totally disregard, and spurring their horses till their sides are streaming with blood, they set up a sort of yell or war-whoop, and placing the butt of the gun on the middle of the chest, they discharge in the air at random, half turning their heads and shutting their eyes, like Gil Blas in his first expedition with the robbers. Sometimes, however, they fire their guns amongst the legs of their neighbours' horses, and it is considered as a great compliment to any stranger who may be looking on, to be fired at as they ride by within a few paces of him. This compliment is frequently conferred with so little discretion, that it is a great chance if the face of the individual so honoured be not blackened with the powder. The game, upon the whole, may be said to present



On Stone by Gle

Three Moors killing a Christian Knight.

Painted by Engelmann, Grai[illegible]

rather an imposing spectacle; the elegance of the costume, the animation of the riders, and the dexterity with which they whirl their long guns about their heads after they have fired them off, combine to render it a pleasing sight; though it is difficult to avoid something like a sensation of disgust at seeing old men, with long venerable beards, vying with each other in so childish a pastime.

The horses of Tangiers are but sorry specimens of the Moorish breed: the ash colour seems to be superior to all others.

The Moorish gun is of an enormous length, and rather small in the bore. The lock is a very rude piece of mechanism; but some of the barrels are admirably manufactured. At Tetuan there is a manufactory of these, so finely twisted, that they might well compare with the finest that are made in England. The best are bought for eight dollars. This gun is almost the only weapon used by the Moorish cavalry. They have, indeed, a long straight sword, but they seldom meet so close in action as to make use of it. Their mode of fighting is to ride full gallop towards the enemy, discharging their guns at a considerable distance, and then wheeling immediately about to prepare for another charge. As they seem to have little idea of taking aim, and as their guns do not go off above three times in six attempts, the slaughter in an engagement is but very inconsiderable. A few years ago an action took place near Tangiers,

between the Sultan's troops, and those of Tetuan. On the royal side were upwards of five thousand men, and after a desperate engagement, the Sultan became master of the field, with a loss of fourteen of his warriors only!

CHAPTER III.

A Moorish Concert. — A Visit to a Jew's Wedding, the Dancing described. — The Swedish Consul and his Garden. — A Repast under an Arbour of Vines, with the Story of a Moor who had been to London. — The Interior of a Moor's House, &c.

At about seven o'clock in the evening we repaired, agreeably to the appointment which we had made the day before, to the house of Hadge Ali Barrada, in whom we found a very jolly fellow. He had been many years in England, and was therefore able to speak our language tolerably well. The rest of the company were, our friend Hadge Hadoud, the Ambassador who had been to Spain, and two masters of music, the one an old, and the other a young man, esteemed the most skilful in the empire. After the usual number of salams, we seated ourselves on mattrasses covered with sheets, that were placed on the floor, and cigars being brought us, we were regaled with a specimen of Moorish music. The old man played on a guitar with a quill; the younger one on a sort of two-stringed violin, which had a bow most beautifully inlaid and ornamented with mother-of-pearl and ebony. They soon

struck up a song, which was in a high key, and only varied about three notes either way; the instruments played the same notes as the voices, and the whole produced so melancholy a whine, that I would have given something considerable to have been able to quit the spot. We were compelled, however, from politeness, to appear pleased, and our musicians, observing our apparent gratification, worked themselves up into a sort of phrensy, and continued singing and playing the same half dozen notes over and over again for a whole hour, shutting their eyes, and rolling their heads about in seeming ecstasy. As to written music, they have no idea of it, but learn by rote, or rather by ear, all that they play. Hadge Hadoud assured us that the words of the air which we had heard were beautiful, and told of love and war. At length, intimating that they must be very tired, we ventured to beg that they would desist, and having expressed our thanks for their kind entertainment, we took our leave, congratulating ourselves most heartily on our escape from the dreadful squeaking of their vile instruments, and leaving our entertainers impressed with the belief that we had been in reality not merely delighted, but highly amazed.

On the morning of the 19th, we received an invitation from the Basha to dine with him in the garden of the Swedish Consul, which we accepted. A visit was in the meantime proposed to the house of a Jew, where they were celebrating the last day of the nuptials of one of the daughters



C. Beauclerk pinx.t

On Stone by Giles

A Jewish Wedding and a Dance

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of the house. We accordingly repaired to the scene of merriment, where we found the bride, a very handsome young woman, with a pair of coal-black eyes, seated on the nuptial bed, which was adorned with a profusion of silk and tawdry. It is impossible to conceive any thing more splendid than her dress. Her head was encircled with a very wide flat turban of white muslin and gold, the body of her gown, her jelick, and her slippers of red Marocco leather, were all most tastefully embroidered with gold, and a thin transparent veil of flowered muslin hung negligently about her person. Amongst the company assembled were two other Jewesses, in equally splendid attire. After having shaken hands with the bride, we took our seats, and immediately there came in two musicians, an old man, whose head much resembled the busts of Seneca, and an old woman, who in many countries would undoubtedly have suffered as a witch. They both had earthen pots, covered with sheep skins, the one being smaller than the other. A dance was called for, and after much blushing and struggling, the younger of the two Jewesses before mentioned stood up. She was the most beautiful person I have seen in Tangiers; indeed she might vie with the most lovely in any country. Her figure, though inclining to stoutness, was not disagreeably so, and if I may judge from her form, her age was about sixteen. The softness of her large black eyes, the vermilion of her beautiful lips, and the rapid succession of modest blushes that overspread

her soft full cheek, were charms that require the peculiar style of Titian's pencil to portray. She had, besides, on her upper lip, that soft black down which gives such character to dark beauties. The prejudice in England is, I know, much against this peculiarity, which by the envious is called a mustachio. The fact is, that in our country it is rare: I know but one family famous for it, and all their handsome faces receive a peculiar grace from this downy addition. But to return to my beautiful maid. She stood up to dance with the cheerfulness of one who considered it her duty to do as she was bid by her parents, though at the expense of her modest feelings. The music, if it may be so called, then commenced, and the cracked voices of the two veteran singers screeched forth in unison, while they struck with all their force their earthen drums. The young girl then took hold of the two corners of a silk handkerchief, and with her eyes cast modestly on the ground, she commenced a sort of voluptuous undulating motion of the whole body, while the feet moved with a very slight sort of shuffle. Every now and then she turned round, and at the same time raised her handkerchief over her head, when her brother, the bridegroom, who stood by, touched her forehead with a pistorine, and threw it to the musicians. The bride then relieved her sister, but did not dance so well, and in her appearance and manner, wanted that greatest of all charms—modesty. As we were to be at the Swedish Consul's garden at mid-day, we took our

leave of the Jews, but not before I had obtained a promise from the young girl, to allow me to return the next day to take a sketch of her in full costume.

We now repaired to the Swedish garden, which is immediately on the outside of the gate of the town. It is about two acres large, and is the property of M. le Conte de Herenoff, who bought it of the Sultan. He has laid out a great deal of money on it, with much taste, and as the soil is very rich, it repays his care. There is one spot in it which commands a view of the whole town, and takes in part of the bay. This is the most advantageous position for a view of the town of Tangiers, which from hence is upon the whole rather pleasing, notwithstanding the monotonous appearance of the square tomb-like houses. Near this spot is the grave of a lovely victim of a broken heart. I had been a year previous to this at Tangiers, and had met this unfortunate girl at a ball. It was a masked one, and she had acted a conspicuous part as a loquacious old woman. In the latter part of the evening we all unmasked, and to my agreeable surprise, this old hump-backed woman turned out, as a beautiful butterfly will from a dingy chrysalis, a lovely girl of seventeen years. With her mask she threw off her assumed manner, and the noisy old woman was transformed into a quiet modest girl. I only saw her that night, and as we danced very merrily till a late hour, the remembrance of the scene was as fresh upon my memory as was the light elastic

form of the charming girl herself;—and now I stood beside her grave. There are few lessons on the instability of human life more heart-rending than that which we learn while pondering o'er the untimely end of some lovely female, from whom we have parted in an hour of mirth and gaiety; but oh! how doubly painful is the conviction that her tender frame has withered beneath the cold touch of disappointed love. Such was the case of Madamoiselle ——, who was the only daughter of the family, and the favourite of every one who knew her. I turned from this interesting spot, and strolled away to meet my companions, who had been joined by the Swedish Consul. He is an old officer of the Swedish guards, with an erect *aire militaire*, and was excessively civil to us, pointing out, to me in particular, all the improvements he had made since I had last been there. We were soon after joined by Hadge Hadoud and his friends whom we had met the evening before, who invited us to sit down under an arbour of vines, and partake of some refreshment. We walked accordingly to the arbour, where we met an elderly Moor with a very intelligent countenance, who acquainted us that he had been in England, and then told us a long story about his having been captured for breaking the blockade of Marseilles by an English frigate, and of the sale of his vessel and property; that he was bearing a letter from the Emperor of Marocco to the king of England, and that he had a right to break the blockade; that he at last got leave to proceed to England, and went straight to

Lord Bathurst; that he spoke to some of the secretaries, who would give him no redress, and that he therefore sat down in the middle of the house, *gritando* with all his might, upon which there came two soldiers, and each taking an arm, they walked him into a room; that an interpreter was sent for, and that he was then visited by Lord Bathurst and his secretary, to whom he made his complaint against the captain who had robbed him; but that the secretary, who was a friend of the captain's, got between Lord Bathurst and *la justicia*, so that the captain was not punished; but when he told them that he was bearing a letter from his king to ours, they paid more attention to him, and Lord Bathurst treated him like a prince; that he not only paid him all his money, but sent him to "*Park in coachee*," with fine horses, and then to play-house, and that whenever he was going to *play-house*, they put in the papers "*Moor go to play-house;*" so that on those nights there was a great deal of money made by the number of people that went to see him. All this was told with great simplicity, in mixed broken English and Spanish, and amused us amazingly; but the most absurd part of it was, his thorough conviction that it was his determined manner of sitting down to *gritar* that was the means of his obtaining *la justicia*.

By this time black slaves had arrived, bearing on their heads flat round dishes of wood, covered with high conical tops made of straw, resembling Chinese hats. These are for the purpose of keep-

ing warm the meat, which is placed on an earthen dish in the inside. These dishes were placed before us on a small table, and contained mutton dressed in various ways; and I must avow that I have never eaten meat in any country which I thought so delicate and well-flavoured. The richness of the fat resembled that of turtle, without any appearance of grease or grossness. The mutton was chiefly baked, and garnished with little bits of kidney, rolled up in fat, and most excellent in their favour. We wanted nothing to make our repast complete but a little wine, which, not being a Mahometan drink, they had not procured us; but even this was supplied us by the ready civility of the Swedish Consul, who immediately despatched a messenger to his house for some most excellent white Malaga wine. Thus provided, we made a most delicious repast. We then took our cigars, and quietly resigned ourselves to undergo a second torturing from our friends the musicians, whose noise, however, was much more tolerable in the open air. The concert lasted about half an hour, after which they begged for an English song, with which Mr. Murray complied. I was anxious to ascertain how much of music our performers really knew, and therefore, requested the one that played on the two-stringed instrument to try if he could follow us whilst we sang our national song. We then sang "God save the King" slowly over once. He fixed his eyes, knitted his brows, and seemed to mark every note; we then began again, and,

to our surprise, he went through the whole air with the greatest accuracy. This convinced us that he was in reality what his friends had called him, an extraordinary genius, and that had he been taught his notes, he would have been an eminent performer, even according to our acceptation of the term. We sat some time with our friends, smoking, drinking, and laughing, and our easy free manner seemed to please them greatly. Finding, however, that the Basha did not make his appearance, we thought that waiting any longer would appear too dependent, and therefore prepared to return home. The Moors tried all they could to prevail on us to stay longer, evidently fearful that the Basha should come when we were gone, and accuse them of not having done their best to entertain us; but as they found us resolved to go, they desisted from pressing us. Hadge Hamet Hardan, the Moor who had *gritar'd* in Downing-street office, then came up to us, and begged that we would go to his house to breakfast the next morning, which invitation we readily accepted, and we agreed to meet at the house of Hadge Ali Barrada, the other Moor who had been in England. Our friend Hadge Hadoud acquainted us of his intention of profiting by our escort, to accompany us as far as Rabat on some business that required his presence at that place. This was a most pleasing piece of information for us, as we had become very intimate with him, and it would be a great advantage to us to have in our company a man of such respectability in his country as Hadge Hadoud.

The next morning we repaired to the house of Hadge Ali Barrada, who begged the Doctor's advice concerning one of his black wives who was troubled with indigestion. As we were all looked upon as disciples of Æsculapius, the whole party was admitted to see the patient, in whom we found a young negro woman far gone in pregnancy, sitting against the wall cross-legged, and surrounded with flat loaves of hot bread, which she seemed anxiously eyeing. She had rather a pleasing modest appearance, her limbs were delicate, and she appeared to be about seventeen years old. She is one of ten of the same colour that share the love of Ali Barrada. She was particularly anxious that we should inform her of what gender would be the soon-expected offspring of her first love. This, however, was not the only case of the same nature which we met with; for it was the first question put to us by almost every woman that we saw in the same state, and they always seemed greatly surprised when we declared the impossibility of looking into futurity. The Doctor having prescribed some castor-oil, which he promised to send her, we gave Barrada strict injunctions to see that she took it immediately, and then set out for the house of Hadge Hamet Hardan, where we found Hadge Hadoud. The interior of this house was the neatest I have seen at Tangiers, and contained two stories. The rooms were neatly painted, and the floors covered with mats, carpets, and beds, over which were spread sheets which keep the sitter cool. The walls were hung with

looking-glasses, painted shelves, some fire-arms of Maroqueen manufacture, and two brace of European pistols; and the whole atmosphere smelt strongly of musk. In the square was placed a small table, which was crowded with tea-cups of broken patterns of china. Hot bread of a very superior quality was then served by a negress; and our host, who was determined to treat us as much after the English fashion as possible, cut the bread into large slices, and inserted between them a sort of half butter, half lard, or rather butter which had been melted and poured into jars to keep. At first, I must say I found some difficulty in reconciling my palate to such a libel on butter; but necessity and habit have since made me relish it as much as I should the best of its kind. We then sat down regularly to breakfast, and were served with some most excellent tea, sweetened by putting the sugar into the tea-pot, which has the effect of dissolving the sugar more thoroughly, and rendering the tea more agreeable. A pair of boiled fowls were then served, and a great variety of small cakes full of carraway and anise seed. With these they often flavour their bread; but I cannot say that I could ever bring myself to approve of the addition. The old gentleman had provided us with small napkins, which had evidently been bought for the occasion, as they had not even been hemmed or washed. We finished our repast with a glass of orange-flower water, which is a most pleasing beverage in a hot climate. Our friends the mu-

sicians had come in while we were at breakfast, and were now preparing to give us fresh proofs of their abilities, when some patients arrived to consult the Doctor, and, fortunately occupied us until it was time to depart. We then took leave of our host, whom we thanked for his attentions, and assured of our readiness to return his civility if ever it should be his good fortune to re-visit England. I then went to the house of my pretty Jewess, with my colours, and found her in anxious expectation of my arrival, and dressed for the purpose in the most gorgeous apparel. After about half an hour's sitting, I succeeded in sketching a very tolerable likeness; but which, being in oils, it was impossible to finish at that time. The picture, however, delighted all assembled amazingly, and the girl made me promise, that if I took it away, I would paint her one for herself. To this I agreed, but I was forced to lay it by until I returned from Marocco.

Mr. Murray and I then went to visit *our* patients; viz. such of the ladies in the vicinity as were afflicted with ailments of so slight a nature, that we deemed ourselves fully competent to prescribe for them without the assistance of the Doctor. To one elderly lady in particular we were specially attentive. This old woman, who could hardly see from an old-standing ophthalmia, had a house full of pretty girls, and it was astonishing with what zeal for the old lady's eyes the daughters would rush to the door when Los Signóres Médicós made their appearance. Thither

resorted all the pretty girls of the neighbourhood, with a thousand of those little ailings which attend the sweet age of fifteen or sixteen. While prescribing for our young patients, there came in a Moor, who requested we would repair to his house to visit his wife; and as the opportunity was so good for seeing a Moorish woman unveiled, we immediately went thither. The lady, however, disappointed our expectations, as she was far from being a beauty, though not altogether ill-looking. After this I had opportunities of seeing many of them, but could discover nothing in them to compare with that beautiful mixture of pink and white which so distinguishes the sweet features of the Jewesses.

In the evening we waited on the Swedish Consul, and drank tea with his delightful family.

CHAPTER IV.

Departure from Tangiers.—Advice to Travellers.—Arrival at Avyela.—A Visit from a Saint.—Some Account of his Appearance, Manners, and Influence.—Departure from Avyela.—Arrival at Larash.—Crossing the Ferry there.—Some Observations on that Town.

On the morning of the 21st July we were to have left Tangiers; but as the Basha had not yet written his letters to the Sultan, and to the governors of the different places through which we were to pass, we were obliged to put off our departure until the next day. In the interval nothing particular occurred. We were employed, chiefly, in administering our last doses to our patients, and in repacking our baggage, which had been put up in such large chests that the mules could not carry them. A mule load is 300lbs. for a long journey. Travellers in this country should, therefore, be particular in having their effects packed in boxes of 150 lbs. weight, and not exceeding three feet long, that being the length which is most convenient. And should it be the misfortune of any one to travel through Marocco in the hot weather, I would recommend one of the large broad-brimmed hats worn chiefly by

women, completely lined on the inside with cotton to keep out the rays of the sun; a white fustian jacket, which, while it is light, is at the same time thick enough to exclude the heat, with a pair of white leather shoes; not forgetting a pair of strong leather gloves, without which a European would be a great sufferer. A pair of spurs, too, is a very necessary accompaniment.

Thus equipped, at seven o'clock the following morning, I mounted my mule with my companions, and, attended by sixteen other mules bearing the baggage, we started from Mr. Douglass's hospitable roof. On the outside of the town we were joined by Hadge Hadoud, and four soldiers, commanded by an alkaid whose name was Susi. We were all provided with our own saddles, which are absolutely necessary in an expedition of the kind, and the head appointments had been supplied us by the Basha. They were some old English artillery bridles, and having lain long in store since they had been presented by our government, they had become perfectly hard and dry from the heat of the sun. To bring them into some sort of shape, they had been ordered to be steeped in warm water, and having been delivered over to the cook for that purpose, he had so boiled them, that the next day, on starting, they broke all to pieces, and it was some time before we could substitute rope in their stead. At length, however, having overcome this difficulty, we set off, and bade adieu to Tangiers.

At ten o'clock we stopped for a short time near

a *douar*, or Arab tent, and rested under a fig-tree. We then passed a large plain, through which ran a stream, which from the great breadth of the bed of the current, must be a very considerable river in the rainy season. Continuing along the sea-coast, and leaving to our right, between us and the sea, large tracts of salt marsh, we soon began to ascend a higher country, which for about eight miles is prettily wooded with the ever-green oak, and a few cork trees. From this, however, we descended into another plain of vast extent from east and westward, and crossed a river which is fordable at low water, but is greatly affected with the tide. The plain lasted about an hour and a half, and we then again entered a higher country, which seemed well cultivated with corn and maze. Here we found a large douar, and a little further on we halted in a garden, at about twelve o'clock, where we took some refreshment. At four we arrived at the borders of a river, whose name I could not ascertain: it is in a plain of considerable extent, and very low, the consequence of which was, that it was strongly affected by the sea tide, which was now fast flowing in, so that we found it impracticable to attempt fording it. Over-hanging its banks was a small hill covered with olives, and oak, and abounding in wood-pigeons. As we remained here a considerable time, in a state of indecision as to our destination for the night, I was preparing to shoot a few wood-pigeons as a relish for our supper; but on entering the wood, one of the escort came running to me, begging me

not to fire off my gun in that wood, as a saint had been buried there, and all sorts of misfortunes would befal us if I killed one of the pigeons. I smiled at the superstition of the poor fellow, and came back to our party, whom I found loud in debate as to the propriety of waiting to cross the river at the fall of the tide, or returning, to pass the night at a douar which we had left about two miles behind us. At last we agreed upon the latter, and off we set for the douar, on approaching which, we found about thirty horsemen collected for the purpose of a Lab el Barode. Our alkaid then bade us halt, and he proceeded with considerable form towards the douar, where a long communication took place, which ended, however, in all our baggage being taken off the mules. Whilst the muleteers were preparing to pitch our tent, a party of the soldiers rode by us at full gallop, and fired off their long guns so close to our faces, that I verily believe that had the powder struck us, it would have left its mark for life. This, we were told, was intended as a compliment. Just as we were flattering ourselves that we should soon see our marquee comfortably pitched for the night, one of the Arabs from the douar came up to Susi, with whom he held a long conference; the purport of which was that, if we encamped there, we were not safe; that the chief of the douar had had a quarrel with a neighbouring chief, on account of some woman he had married, and should the other take it in his head to attack the douar in the night, they could not be answerable for our safety.

We now had no alternative but to return to the river, and proceed straight to Arzela.

By the time we reached the river it was getting dusk: the tide, however, had ebbed considerably, and we could just ford without wetting our baggage, which we had no sooner accomplished, than we pushed sharply on to Arzela. After riding for about two hours over a dead flat, we arrived on the sea beach, which was of hard sand. The high walls of Arzela now rose before us, and from the darkness of the night appeared close at hand; but we did not arrive at the gate of that town until nine o'clock at night. It overhangs the sea, and if we may judge from the enormous height of the wall, and some beautiful remains of cut stone arches where windows have been, it was a place of great strength and splendour. We waited some time in the market-place before it was settled where we should be lodged for the night; but at last a messenger from the governor conducted us to the house of a Jew, where we found a tolerably comfortable room, with clean mats on the floor. Our friend, Hadge Hadoud, then sent to the Governor for the necessary provisions, and, much to our satisfaction, we were readily supplied with plenty of milk and delicious butter fresh from the churn, a luxury of which we had not partaken since we had left England. The heat of the climate does not allow of the butter being kept; it is therefore not churned to the proper degree of consistency, but nevertheless is but little inferior to that of our own

country. All now joined in doing honour to our little repast; but in the midst of our supper, a noise was heard from without, and shortly after a miserably clad, dirty old man entered the apartment, supported by two Moors, and followed by a host of ragamuffins. This procession no sooner appeared at the door, than Hadge Hadoud started from his seat, crying *Santo! Santo!* and rushing up to the old man, he kissed his shoulders and hands, and seemed ready to drop on his knees in adoration of this perfect monster. After a few compliments we were introduced to him, and he assured us that he was glad to see us, and that good would attend us wherever we went. We then all sat down, while continual fresh arrivals of Moors were kissing the hem of his filthy garment. Our guards came to him also, and putting into his hands two or three pistorines, called on him for his blessing. A sort of pause then ensued; and the old fellow seemed to be mumbling something to himself, as he counted his beads, and turned his eye-balls towards the heavens. Never was the Oracle of Delphos more intently watched by the heathen worshipper, than was this Saint by the Moors, who had gathered round him, and when he did speak, which was in short broken sentences, they caught at each word with a degree of superstitious avidity that is inconceivable to those who are unacquainted with the gross ignorance of a Moor. After one of these long pauses, which we expected was to produce some artful *double entendre*, the venerable old rogue turned suddenly towards

Mr. Murray, and begged a pistorine towards the increase of his charitable fund. For a moment that gentleman was so astonished at the demand, and so unwilling to subscribe to such disgusting imposition, that he hesitated complying; but Hadge Hadoud, who had been anxiously watching the issue of the scene, begged of him to give the money for him. Seeing the anxiety of our friend, the Hadge, Mr. Murray immediately gave the pistorine, which the Saint pocketed with unblushing coolness. After having staid about a quarter of an hour, our unwelcome guest took his leave, followed by the posse which had attended him to our house. He was a man about five feet eight inches in height, and appeared to be between seventy and eighty years old. His head and features were regular, and his eyes remarkably sharp and brilliant. At first his venerably white beard, and a silly imbecile look that pervaded his countenance, made me imagine that he was half idiotical; but when he was quietly seated near the light, I looked long and steadfastly at his countenance, and could perceive that it displayed marks of the deepest cunning concealed under a most hypocritical surface. When he was gone, Hadge Hadoud told us, with a very grave countenance, that this was one of the greatest saints in the kingdom; that every one who entered Arzela, repaired to his house, and after having asked permission to proceed on his journey, gave him whatever money he desired, which, of course, was regulated by the riches or poverty of the supplicant; that even

the Sultan presented him with a large purse when he passed that way; and that accordingly he was considered to have amassed an enormous sum of money, of which, however, he declares he throws a great part into the sea annually. He further told us that the saint was in the habit of doing a great many charitable acts among the poor of Arzela, and that he was served daily with fifty dishes of various sorts; that at least a hundred persons partook of this feast; and that his house was a sanctuary for all persecuted persons, from which no authority dared to drag them. I had heard Hadge Hadoud previously mention this saint; but I had no idea that a man of generally liberal notions, who had lived among enlightened people so long as he had, could be so blindly bigoted as to believe in the sanctity of such a disgusting old hypocrite as our visitor. At first, indeed, I thought that he merely followed the stream; which it would have been folly to have stemmed, but I soon found that he swam rather than floated with the current; for before we left Arzela he repaired to the saint, and having obtained his permission to proceed on his journey, he also begged for his protection, which the other granted, telling him that nothing but good awaited him, and then asked him for some money for charity. The Hadge then proceeded to lay down one pistorine after another, while the saint continued saying *more, more,* until thirty-two of them had found their way into the old fellow's pocket. A saint in Barbary is either a natural idiot, or an

hereditary saint, there being *saint families* in abundance. They are treated with the greatest respect; every one gives them money, and when they die, they are entombed with some other saint, generally on the border of a lake or river. I know of no greater, or more striking proof of the lamentable ignorance of this nation, than their belief in the sanctity of these rogues and idiots,—the lucrativeness of whose profession excites hundreds to assume the maniac; and they are consequently to be found in abundance in every town in the kingdom.

On the 23d of July we left Arzela, at six o'clock in the morning, having had some part of our saddlery stolen by the Jews, who carrying on but little trade, are miserably poor. Arzela is a small town, containing perhaps two hundred houses, and ruled by a military governor:—it has some excellent gardens on the outside of the walls. After about three hours ride over a barren country of easy hill and dale, we struck off to the sea shore, and continued until about mid-day to ride on a fine smooth sandy beach. The country along the shore had a more pleasing appearance than any we had seen on our journey, being composed of uneven ground, prettily covered with wood. Here we left the last place at which I observed any rocky cliffs on the sea shore. At ten o'clock we rested at a spring of water, under the shade of some mulberry-trees, whose fruit was hardly ripe, and very small. Having passed an hour here, we proceeded on our journey, and arrived

on the banks of the river Leocouse at three o'clock. This river is about two hundred and fifty yards across, and has rather a rapid current. It runs from the eastward, and overflows a plain of great extent, which, during the summer, gives pasturage to heards of fine cattle. On the slope of the opposite bank stands Laraish, a small sea-port town, containing about four hundred houses. There we resolved to rest for the night, as we had a long day's journey to perform on the following day. A large boat ferried us over the river, after the usual delay of urging the mules to leap into it at the risk of breaking their legs, and we were landed on a little wharf something in the European style. Here I could not help remarking the dead halt which common-sense seems to have made among these self-conceited people. Here was an instance of a river over which there is a continual thoroughfare; and all the traffic of the country being carried on by horse-carriage, or that of camels, and it being inevitable that these animals should continually pass over the river with their burthens; one would have imagined that, in the course of time, some great mechanic would have risen up among the people, and at least taught them to construct a flat-bottomed ferry-boat, with a falling platform at the side, on which laden animals, and even cavalry horses, might pass into the boat, without breaking their knees. But, alas! no such Archimedes has appeared among them, and instead of such a simple invention, they make use of sharp-bottomed launches, with

high gunwales ; so that in crossing a small stream of this kind, travellers are detained an hour at least, it being necessary, first to unload the mules, and then to compel the unhappy creatures by dint of furious beating, to leap into the boat. Leaping out again, and re-loading, completes the delay. This was the case on every one of the rivers over which we passed. In the stream were lying two vessels, both belonging to Gibraltar ; the largest of which might be about fifty tons. I was told that vessels of larger dimensions could not cross the bar, over which, at low tide, there is not above three feet of water, except at one narrow channel, through which small vessels may go. At the entrance of the town I observed, as also in several other places, that the wall had been violently rent and thrown half out of its foundation, which, as it is to be seen in many different parts, I ascribe to some heavy shock of an earthquake ; and I am surprised that Ali Bey should have taken no notice of it, particularly as the first thing that strikes the eye from the opposite side of the river, is the remarkable appearance and situation of a large mass of detached building near a square castle, overhanging the entrance of the port, and from the small Moorish tower on the top of this ruin, the whole appears to have formed one corner of a large Moorish castle. The foundation of the present one is about thirty feet above the bottom of the mass above-mentioned, the whole of which leans several feet without its base, and is about fifty feet high, and as many in cir-

cumference. From its resemblance to a neighbouring corner of the present castle, one is at first tempted to imagine that it has been part of a building similar in form to the present one, and occupying the same site, and that some violent commotion has caused it, at the destruction of the old building, to slip from its original basis to its present; but when one considers its great size, and the descent of the bank down which it seems to have slid, one is obliged to abandon the idea, and conclude that the original castle stood lower down near the river, and the present corner is all that remains of it. I made some inquiries as to the date of this earthquake; but was told no one knew when it had happened, it being beyond the memory of man, to use the Jew's expression, of whom I asked the question. We were taken to the house of a Moor who kept a sort of inn for travellers. He was a fine fat cherry-looking fellow, who had been seventeen years in England, and yet hardly spoke a word of English, which is rather uncommon; for generally the Moors, and also the Turks, learn and pronounce our language with wonderful celerity and correctness. Our host, as he told us himself, was a merchant, and owned the little wharf on which we landed. The exports about this part of the country consist chiefly in bullock's hides, wax, and gums. Notwithstanding that Laraish is a sea-port town, it is reckoned unwholesome by the inhabitants of the place, who say that there is continually fever

going about, but that they are never attacked by any severe mortality. The neighbourhood of the extensive marsh to the eastward, will account for the former part of what they told us, and the vicinity of the sea to the westward, for the latter; the one in a measure counter-balancing the other. After we had refreshed ourselves a little, we strolled out, and made a round of the town. On the top of the hill we found a large oblong square, surrounded by small shops or bazaars, with a projecting colonnade of low Moorish arches, supported by pillars of about six feet high. The whole is neatly built of stone, and is the only range of buildings I have seen in Barbary worthy remarking. Ali Bey believes them to be Christian works, but from their similarity to other bazaars, which I have seen down the Mediterranean, I should be inclined to look upon them as Moorish. The Christians would have built them larger; whereas a Moor's bazaar is just big enough for his fat personage to sit cross-legged in, and so low that he has all his shop at his command, without the necessity of rising to serve a customer.

Laraish was originally a Portuguese town, and was ceded to, or taken by, Muley Ismael. All, however, that remains of the Christian's labour, are the fortifications, which consist of some broken down guns, mounted on a bastion, and a few straight walls, sufficiently calculated to defend the place at the period at which they were constructed, but now quite useless. At the mouth of the har-

bour, there is a half-moon battery, looking seaward, and containing some pieces of ordnance to the amount of about twelve in number, but of what calibre, or in what state of repair, I cannot say, as we did not see the interior of the battery. Indeed on this head the Moors are ridiculously jealous :—whether it arises from ignorance, or the fear of shewing their weakness to strangers, is difficult to decide : but certain it is, that any application to be allowed to visit their places of defence, not only meets with refusal, but excites great suspicions of your intentions. I remember, at Tangiers, having strolled accidentally into a battery defending, or rather supposed to defend, the harbour or anchorage, and I had only just time to find myself standing amongst a row of honeycombed guns, of every age and nation, when I was hurried out by the Caid in charge of those valuable pieces of ordnance. I had, however, time enough to observe, that out of about twenty of these rusty implements of *self*-destruction, there was not one that could be fired twice, either from not having any carriage, from wanting an odd wheel to the same, or from being long past the age of shot-bearing. The governor of Laraish is a tributary of the Basha, who commands all the province of Ebherbe, and he was at this time paying him his devoirs in the celebration of some feast near Laraish. In the evening we were entertained by the feats of some soldiers, who played at single-stick under our windows, one of whom

displayed wonderful dexterity in the equally skilful management of two sticks, one in each hand, accompanying each stroke with the exclamation *hah! hah!* strongly aspirated, which is used on all occasions when they are animated in any game.

CHAPTER V.

Departure from Laraish. — Ludicrous Adventure in passing a Ford. — Story of the Don Juan of Barbary.

On the morning of the 24th, at seven o'clock, we left Laraish, and at ten at noon we passed through a wood of cork and silex, abounding in wood-pigeons and doves. At eleven we passed numbers of wild pear trees, and then entered upon an open sandy country, thickly covered with an umbelliferous plant* growing to the height of twelve or thirteen feet, with a stem of great thickness and strength. This monstrous weed covers

* The name of this plant I have not been able to ascertain. It was perfectly dried up when I saw it, and I can therefore only describe it as an umbelliferous plant of a straight hollow stalk, with stoppages at intervals of a foot, decreasing at the head, and from whence proceeded other straight shoots, at an acute angle from the stem, bearing at the end a large head of seed, much resembling those of the larger species of umbelliferous plants, which I have seen plates of. It grows so thickly over the face of the country (whose sandy soil seemed incapable of bearing any other vegetation), and to such a height as to conceal, and in many places hinder, the progress of cavalry. The stalk is made use of as rafters for the support of plastering in houses, and in a thousand other ways, wherein the want of small wood makes it useful.

the whole country hence to Rabat, and as at this season of the year it was completely dried up, the face of the country presented a most sun-burnt appearance.

At about mid-day we came to an extensive valley, where the sand seemed to be more mixed with soil. In the bottom of this valley was a large douar, and a well of water. The surrounding slopes were sowed with millet, a seed much used by the Moors in making *couscousou*, and by the poorer Arabs in making bread. It is sown on ground that is too poor to bear corn. The Arabs were at this time gathering in a most plentiful crop. At one o'clock we stopped under a look-out house of a neighbouring douar, and procured some fresh butter and milk. Again we fell into the same miserable country as before. As far as the eye could reach, the same sand hills covered with the same weed, kept rising before us. As we arrived at each succeeding height, we anxiously expected a more agreeable prospect; but every fresh rising produced fresh disappointment. Towards two o'clock we came to the out-let of an extensive lake which ran into the sea. Here we found a steep bank of sand descending to the narrow channel which connects the lake with the ocean. This bank was crowned with five or six saints' tombs, some of which were buried in the sand, which keeps accumulating from the seashore; while others were tenanted by some ill-looking rascals, who seemed to have taken up their abodes in these strong holds of sanctity for the double purpose

of playing saint or highway-man as the occasion might suit.

The tide was running in from the sea, and every moment made the channel deeper ; but, after some discussion between our guards and the muleteer as to the possibility of our passing the stream, we attempted the best ford we could find ; and luckily, we were just able to pass over without wetting our baggage. Here the tedium of this day's journey was, in a measure, broken through by the ludicrous adventure of our cook,—an Italian, who had set out on the journey accompanied by a white linen bag, or pillow-case, containing his slender wardrobe, and a blue paper band-box, containing a new hat. Thus provided, and mounted on a laden mule, surrounded by kettles, frying-pans, and gridirons, this man of the spit little dreamt what difficulties and hardships he was doomed to encounter. The dilapidated state of the blue band-box, and the extreme anxiety of its owner to protect it from surrounding danger, had been sources of great merriment to us on the road ; but all the poor cook's endeavours had been in vain, and the gradual dismemberment of this fragile object of his tender solicitude was announced by the increasing number of blue-and-red chequered handkerchiefs with which it was enveloped. This was the state in which the pasteboard band-box and the pastry-cook arrived at the banks of the ford. The poor man, frightened at the depth of the water, had deferred the evil moment of pass-

ing over, until the last mule had proceeded half way across. By this folly, he had increased his difficulty; for the tide, which was making most rapidly, had considerably deepened the channel by the time he had mustered sufficient courage to attempt the ford. Imagine him, then, perched aloft upon a pile of baggage, sitting in an agony of fear, with his band-box in one hand, and his linen bag in the other, — looking down with trembling anxiety on the surrounding waters. The mule had scarcely reached the deepest part of the channel, when the strength of the current below, and the towering weight above, caused it to roll from side to side, threatening momentary downfal to his rider. All now became anxious for the fate of the baggage, while the dilemma of the unhappy cook caused roars of laughter. It was in vain that we called out to him to guide his mule to the shallowest part of the ford; for, in his solicitude for his worldly effects, he left the animal to its own direction. The mule, thus abandoned to its own guidance, took its way into the deepest water. The poor affrighted cook, who, like Obadiah, had lost his presence of mind, now lost his seat also, from the stumbling of the mule; and, slipping from his seat, hung clinging to the edge of the baggage, still holding with a tenacious gripe the companions of his journey. For a few seconds he vainly endeavoured to recover his seat, but not having the free use of his hands, he was on the point of being plunged into the stream, when a piece of

iron, projecting from the pack-saddle, arrested his descent; and the next moment found him suspended in the air by the waistband of his trowsers, amongst his own kettles and pots, his feet trailing in the water, and his hands still grasping the authors of his misfortune. In this ridiculous position he was conveyed on shore, amidst the unbridled merriment of the whole party.

On the opposite bank of the channel, we found more saints' tombs: and leaving the sea shore to our right, we pursued our course along the edge of the lake, which appeared to be about four miles broad at the widest part, which is at the northern end. The water of this lake is brackish, of course, on account of the sea tide flowing into it at high water; but, otherwise, the lake might be called fresh, being supplied by the streams of water that run from the country. We followed the edge of the lake until we came to the end of it; and shortly afterwards we pitched our tent, at seven o'clock, near a douar, situated in a low swampy ground, covered with the richest herbage. Whilst the soldiers were preparing our tent, I took my gun, and strolled to the water's edge to try to shoot some water fowl, which are seen in abundance all about these lakes I found, however, that they were very wild, and I failed in my endeavour to kill a species of *curlew*, (as I supposed it) which I had never before, nor have I since that time, seen any of. The height of these birds is nearly that of the white heron, a number of which were at that time in company with them.

The plumage appeared to me to be quite black,* and the bill of an immense length, slightly curved downwards, like that of a curlew. I also disturbed numbers of quail, which are found in abundance along the shores of the lake; and having killed a common adder, such as are found in all parts of England, but of a very large breed, I returned to the tent to partake of some refreshment before we retired to rest. But here I found that we were most dreadfully annoyed by a species of grasshopper of a most monstrous size. The plague of the locusts in Egypt could scarcely have been more disagreeable than the swarms of these disgusting insects. The shape of this creature resembles greatly that of a flea, about the body, while the legs are those of a grasshopper. The length of it is near an inch and a half, and its colour is a bright green. The body is covered with a hard scale armour; and the motion of the insect is a slow crawl. I have never seen them jump, and they have no wings.

My readers will easily imagine how great a nuisance they must have been, when I say, that the grass was so covered with them, that it was not possible to walk about without destroying six or seven at a step; and they have so little idea of fear, that they came into our tent by hundreds, crawled up our coats, our beds, tables, chairs; and in fact, it was impossible to stand still three minutes without having five or six of

* As it was after sunset, I may have mistaken the dark colour of that bird called the Wattled Heron by Buffon, for black.

them crawling over you. But what disgusted me most, was, to see the ferocious greediness with which the living part of their community attacked the dead, and not only the dead, but even those which had been only half crushed by our feet. I watched them several times at this employment, and saw five or six tearing away and devouring the entrails of their struggling victim. It is so rare to find creatures devouring their own species, and more particularly before the extinction of life, that the seeing it naturally excites disgust; and I must say, that I never experienced more uneasiness in any situation than that in which we were placed during the night. But this was not the only evil which we had to encounter; for the moment the candles were lighted in the tent, we were assailed by swarms of mosquitos, and another smaller species of them, which bit us in the most merciless manner. To exclude them was impossible, as the heat of the night prevented us from closing the door of the tent; and it was in vain that we endeavoured to obtain rest even after so long a day's ride. The hours passed heavily away in useless exclamations against our tormenting enemies; and at four o'clock, we rose from our sleepless beds, fatigued, heated, and bitten almost to distraction. We soon mounted our mules, and rode with eager precipitation from this nest of reptiles. We questioned our guard as to the means of defence used by the Arabs in their tents against the attacks of these insects, and they informed us, that they slept in sacks up to their

necks, their faces being too tough to receive injury.

Our road still lay along the borders of another lake, almost joining the former one; but not actually connected with it. This piece of water seemed to be a mile broad, and fifteen miles long. The country still wore the same uncultivated appearance, and was devoid of a single tree. Along the borders of the lake we passed several douars surrounded by beds of water-melon and millet. At one of these we stopped about mid-day to take some refreshment. At about four we passed the ruins of a saint's tomb, shaded by a fig-tree. It seemed to be tenanted, or rather haunted, by an ill-looking fellow, in most ragged attire. On the outside of the tomb, two human skeletons lay extended, on one of which there were still the remains of flesh. At first sight, the appearance of so ill-looking a fellow, and these remains of mortality, combined to excite, the most unfavourable ideas in our minds; but we afterwards found that our suspicions were unjust. At half-past one we rested under a grove of fig-trees for a short time. Here Dr. Brown killed a common adder, similar to the one I had destroyed the evening before. It was sleeping on a bough close to the spot where Mr. Murray had lain himself down to rest. At about half-past five we encamped near a douar in a low situation, with a small rivulet of clear water running by it, and two large groves of fig-trees. Here the country began to assume a more cultivated appearance, and to be better inhabited.

Though we had reason to fear a return of our last night's torments from the dampness of our encampment, we were happy in finding that we had entirely taken leave of them. Near this douar I shot a species of jay, whose plumage of blue nearly excelled that of the king-fisher, seen all over England. During supper, at which we found ourselves very merry at our release from annoyance, and the prospect of a good night's rest, we were amused by our friend Hadoud, who related several stories of Moorish adventures, amongst which was the following one, of the *Don Juan of Barbary*, an imaginary character, whose existence even amongst the grave Mussulmen, they do not scruple to assert.

A young Moor, of poor and mean origin, but possessing all the advantages of youth and beauty, fell violently in love with a Cadi's* daughter, and finding that there was no chance of obtaining the fair object of his adoration in marriage, he resolved to run all risks in procuring an interview with her. Love is not very slow of invention, as every one knows who has tried it, and the young Juan of Barbary was not less ingenious than he of Spain. He procured female attire, and when wrapped in the ample folds of the haik, his slender figure, and fair face of beardless beauty, passed easily off for those of a lovely girl. In this disguise he proceeded to the house of the judge, whom he found standing at the door, and approaching him with reverence, asked charity of

* Cadi, a Judge.

him in trembling accents. The Cadi, touched with pity at the distress of one whose half-veiled countenance appeared so engaging, kindly questioned our hero as to his history, to which he replied, that he was an orphan girl, who was in search of a situation as a servant maid to support her existence. Now it so happened that the judge was in want of a female, to act in the capacity of a body attendant and companion to his daughter, who, having lost her mother, was very lonely; and being pleased with the modest deportment of the fair orphan, he resolved to take her under his protection, as bed-fellow to his daughter. The proposal, as might be supposed, was joyfully accepted, and the orphan girl was conducted by the negresses of the harem to the presence of the Mooress, for her approval. The first glance at the features of the muffled figure which stood before her, reminded her of one who she little thought was so near her, and she decided upon accepting her father's choice, and ordering her slaves to prepare her apartment, she bade her new attendant follow her to her dressing-room, to disrobe her of her gorgeous apparel. The awkwardness of her new servant was good-naturedly excused, under the head of over-anxiety to please, and when her beautiful mistress retired to rest, she desired her awkward maid to follow her to her bed-room. It may be supposed that our ardent Juan was not long in obeying these commands. He cast off his female attire, and extinguishing the light, crept softly to the bed of

his unconscious mistress. The curtain having been drawn, it would be presumptuous to attempt to describe the *denouement* which took place; suffice it to say, that the young lady assured her father the next morning, that his paternal choice completely met her approbation, and that in his new protegée she found a most agreeable companion.

Just at this juncture, a young man of consequence, hearing of the far-famed beauty of the Cadi's daughter, paid a formal visit to the father, to satisfy himself of the young lady's merit; but happening to surprise her unawares in company with her new attendant, he was so struck with the beauty of the latter, that, transferring his admiration from the mistress to the maid, he became at first sight deeply enamoured, so that upon taking his leave, he questioned the Cadi as to the history of his daughter's companion, at the same time declaring his wish to obtain his consent to marry her. The benevolent judge, who really had the young orphan's welfare greatly at heart, immediately gave his consent; but at the same time added, that he was afraid that, when he had heard the meanness of her lineage, he would withdraw his offer. The young man, on the contrary, declared his determined resolution of marrying the girl, whatever might be her origin. The agreement being thus far settled, the judge announced his intention to the new attendant of bestowing her in marriage to a young man of great fortune, and bade her prepare herself for

the wedding, which would shortly take place. The terror of the young Moor and his guilty companion, may easily be imagined. The prospect of a cruel watery death presented itself in full force to the affrighted pair. As soon as the first feeling of fear had in a measure subsided, the youth began to revolve in his mind a thousand different expedients for avoiding the impending danger, and at last determined upon carrying on the deception he had begun, and trusting to his invention to escape from the house of the bridegroom.

The day soon arrived, when our young adventurer was to resign his charming mistress for ever; and it would be difficult to determine whether grief at parting, or fearful anxiety for the future, were most predominant in the minds of the afflicted lovers. The parting between mistress and maid was long and painful, which of course excited no suspicion in the minds of the spectators, as being nothing more than what would naturally take place between a fond, indulgent mistress, and a grateful servant. The enraptured bridegroom, mounted on a superb milk-white steed of the Abda breed, with his face covered up, and surrounded by his friends and relations, now proceeded slowly to the house of the judge, whilst the surrounding horsemen rode backwards and forwards by the road side, uttering shrieks of joy and animation as they discharged their long guns at the bridegroom's muffled face. The arrival of the bridegroom was announced by the din of

drums and flutes from without, and the shrill cries of the female slaves within. The bride summoning up all her courage, modestly veiled her face with her beautiful transparent haik, and was then led to the door, where a camel, bearing a litter of rose-leaf cushions, overhung by a gilded canopy, with embroidered curtains of crimson and gold, stood ready to convey her to the house of her intended; again the procession was put in motion, and again the honours of the Lab el Barode were discharged at the person of the bridegroom.

Arrived at the house, and the marriage ceremony performed, the bride was conducted to her splendid apartments, where the softest carpets and the richest embroidery shewed the liberal taste of the master of the house. The evening now wore fast away with the banqueting of the company, and the bridegroom being obliged to do the honours to his guests, it was late before the breaking up of the party, some of whom lingered over the good cheer, allowed of his retiring to his wife, whom he found already in bed. The bride having determined upon the course she should pursue as to the discovery of her sex to the disappointed bridegroom, had taken into her bed a large knife, which she had secreted about her dress previous to her departure from the Cadi's house, and was now prepared to play a desperate game to obtain her liberty. With very different feelings did the amorous husband, having extinguished the light, repair to the bed of expected bliss; but no sooner had he entered it, than the liberty which marriage

allows a man over the fair person of his choice, soon caused some suspicions as to the reality of his wife's pretensions to the attributes of the sex, and jumping up in his bed, he exclaimed, "By Alla, they have given me a man for a wife!" His bed-fellow in an instant seized him by the throat, telling him to be quiet, or he would sever his head from his body, at the same time drawing the back of the knife across his neck to convince him of his power to carry his threat into execution if he persisted in making a noise. Juan then told him all his history, omitting only that part of it which related to his love for the Cadi's daughter, and assigning in lieu, (in vindication of the deception he had practised towards the Cadi) extreme poverty. He then assured the affrighted bridegroom of his good will towards him if he would lie still and make no noise until he had left the house, which being readily agreed to, he proceeded to dress himself in the other's clothes, and leaving the room, he turned the key in the door, and made the best of his way to the stable, where finding the white horse, which the bridegroom had ridden in the morning, already saddled, he led him out, and mounting him, rode off as fast as the horse could gallop, knowing well that there was not another swift enough to overtake him. In the meantime the disappointed bridegroom lay quietly in bed, dreading the return of day, which would bring all his congratulatory friends and relations to hear a story, in the telling of which he would cut but a sorry figure. The

next morning he repaired early to the house of the Cadi, and related to him how he had in one night lost the two things which a Moor values most—a beautiful wife and a swift horse. The Cadi went immediately to the apartment of his daughter, whom he acquainted with the tidings of the bride's transformation and escape. The penitent girl fell upon her knees before her afflicted father, and frankly confessed her crime. The Cadi, who was one of those men who can allow for others' faults and failings, saw that there was little use in railing at his daughter's frailty, however distressed he might be at the event, and he returned to the late bridegroom, who, after lamenting the transaction which would bring upon him the ridicule of all the young men in the town, begged of the Cadi to allow him his daughter's hand in marriage, the honour of which would in a great measure silence ridicule, and at the same time make amends for his disappointment. The Cadi, who knew that to refuse him would be giving a handle to the malicious to report ill fame of his daughter, whereas her marriage would silence all scandal, resolved to comply. He therefore told his friend he should consult his daughter, and that if she agreed, he had no objection. The fair Mooress had too lately felt the danger of her situation, to refuse her assent to such a proposal as not only secured her reputation for life, but placed her in a situation as honourable as it was advantageous. Again did the gaily caparisoned camel appear at the Cadi's door, and bear away, amidst the firing of guns and the noise

of the women, another bride to the house of the accommodating bridegroom. The Cadi being an opulent man, settled all his property on his daughter, and four camels laden with clothes and jewels attended the procession. Again did the friends of both parties assemble at the feast, which was given by the united wealth of two fortunes. As for the new bride, a slight sigh escaped her once or twice, as she observed sundry little articles of female attire in the corner of her dressing-room, which were familiar to her eye, and for a moment she seemed to hesitate entering the beautiful bed. This reluctance was ascribed by the female slaves to her youth and modesty. Left alone at length in the very bed which had been decked out to receive her Juan, she could not help wishing that he still were there, but the recollection of the danger they had both run by their indiscretion, soon convinced her of the necessity of banishing him from her thoughts, and as time and absence had already slightly cooled the first infatuation by which she had been overcome, she the more easily reconciled herself to her situation, which found her in a few minutes more in the arms of her handsome husband.

CHAPTER VI.

Superstitious Custom of Knotting the Broom.—The Veneration in which the Moors hold Storks.—The Travellers witness, between Mendia and Sallèe, the horrible Effects of a previous Famine.—Arrival at Salèe—Its Aqueduct, Walls, &c. described.—Arrival at Rabat.—Agreeable Reception at that Town.

We left our encampment on the morning of the 26th, at half-past six o'clock, and at about eleven we came to the banks of a beautiful river, called the Seboo. The ground on each side of the river, near its mouth, is very high, and the approach to the water's edge, steep and dangerous. As we proceeded down the declivity, I observed the bank was covered with broom, the branches of which were tied in a thousand knots, for which I was trying to ascribe some motive, when I observed the soldiers of our guard, and Hadge Hadoud, busily employed in knotting the slender branches of this beautiful shrub. I immediately inquired of him the reason for so doing. Hadoud, who is too sensible a man to have any faith in all the little follies of religious superstition, and yet too much a man of the world to scorn the performance of them before his own countrymen, seemed confused at my question, and

answered that it was an old custom, evidently avoiding explanation; but as I have seen the same ceremony repeated at another river's side, I have no doubt that it is meant as an invocation of Divine protection while crossing the river, in the same manner as the Catholics make the sign of the cross on entering or crossing over the water.* On reaching the bed of the river, we picked up a very fine-looking fish, which had been left by the

* I have seen this practice carried to such a ridiculous length at Malta, that the fishermen, who dive for oysters and other things which are thrown overboard from the shipping, never leap from their boats, without first crossing themselves, though they are in and out of them every five minutes. These religious amphibious gentlemen are peculiarly expert in the art of thieving: they have little boats just big enough to contain one person, which they propel with two little sculls or oars, and sometimes even a sail: in these they approach unperceived the bows of vessels lying at anchor, and cut away whatever they find hanging from the ship. They remain completely naked all day, always ready to dive for any thing that is thrown overboard. So expert are they in this practice, that I have seen a thin silver coin thrown into the water, and caught by one of them before it reached the bottom. The children at this place learn to swim at a very early age. As you row about the harbour you may see ten or a dozen of these little urchins, all head and belly, sitting on the wharfs along the shore, quite naked, sunning themselves. I used frequently to amuse myself by throwing chips and bits of rope-yarn overboard to them, to see the scramble that ensued. One who has disturbed, in the course of his rambles by the side of a stream, a family of frogs squatting in council on a stone, will remember with what headlong precipitation they have taken to the water. So, in an instant, do these tadpole urchins shoot from their sunning place, and the next moment finds the water covered with their pumpkin heads, uttering all kinds of noises, as they dive or swim in boisterous contention for a rope-yarn.

tide. It was about the size of a salmon, but has a larger head, and is called a shebbel. They are taken in great quantities in this river, and being dried, are sent up to Fez. The river Seboo is a fine stream, about as wide at the mouth as the Thames at Vauxhall Bridge. The entrance to the river, which was about a hundred yards distant, appeared shallow, having a bar of sand. On approaching the spot of embarkation, our Italian cook espied a stork sitting on some loose straw by the river side, and seeing that the bird did not endeavour to escape, he was rushing up to it to catch it, when an Arab camel-driver laid his hand on his dagger, and gave the poor Italian such a look as effectually checked him in his pursuit. The stork, who was maimed or old, not being able to fly, took to the water when chased, but the same camel-driver waded into the stream, and taking the bird in his arms, carried it back to the straw. On a low sandy point at the mouth of the river was a vast concourse of these birds, which were assembling at this time, as the Moors told us, for the purpose of convoy to other regions, whither they annually emigrate; but to what particular part of the world, zoologists have not decided. Numberless are the stories recorded by the Moors of the sagacity of these birds, for which they entertain great veneration. It is said, that, when a stork becomes maimed or old, some of his nearest relations take upon themselves the charge of carrying him away when the general emigration takes place. If this should be really true, I can

only say that storks, like men, are too apt to shun their friends in sickness, and that the stork in question had to lament his want of "one friend in the world," whilst his wife, or his daughter, was most probably walking off with a new gallant to a foreign land. It is lucky indeed for the male sex of the human species, that they are not dependant on their wives to carry them on their backs in an emigration, or how few young women but would decline the task of bearing so useless a burthen on their shoulders.

Our friend Hadoud related to us a story, which will serve to shew the veneration of the Moors for these birds. A Cadi was applied to at Fez by a Moor to be put in possession of the house of another who had lately died intestate, and to whom he was next heir. A stork, however, the head no doubt of his tribe, put his veto against the Moor's demand,* by telling the Cadi that the deceased had made over to the storks his house as a hospital for their sick and maimed. The case was so clear as to admit of no doubt, and the Chancellor therefore proceeded to give judgment in favour of the birds. But had the Moor been able to adduce stronger evidence in his own defence, judgment would in all probability have been deferred until the house, like many others in chancery, had become a very

* The Moors universally believe that some people are gifted with the power of conversing with birds, a superstition which has most likely come from the East, from the story of Selim.

fit residence for the storks. This most probably is the same hospital of which Ali Bey makes mention, as seen at Fez.

The same scene now ensued as at Laraish with regard to urging the reluctant mules to leap into the boats, and after two hours and a half's labour, we succeeded in disembarking on the opposite shore, close under the lofty walls of the town of Mendia, founded by the Portuguese, who formerly carried on considerable trade at this place; but commerce has deserted it, and its walls now contain about two hundred miserable Moorish houses. As our road did not lie through the town, we did not enter it, but passed along the bank of the river close under the northern wall, which, though in ruins, still displays the remains of its former grandeur. It is compactly built of a reddish sand-stone, which seemed the species of rock most prevalent in this country. Having lost sight of Mendia, we suddenly entered on a more varied style of scenery than we had been accustomed to during the previous days' journies. Indeed, the valley into which we descended upon leaving the river's bed, only wanted wood to make it exceedingly beautiful. In the bottom of the ravine was a lake of fresh water, with two or three palm trees at the near end, waving their elegant heads in solitary grandeur. The ground rose rather suddenly on both sides of us. It was nearly two hours before we left this valley, and we then entered a more open sandy country. Our guides here told us that the neighbourhood con-

tained *Mala Gente,* but they never offered to uncover their long guns, which, upon all occasions of escort, except where there is an almost certainty of danger, is the case, so that should you really be attacked by an unexpected force while escorted by Moorish soldiers, it is probable that you would be robbed and murdered before they could uncover their guns. The name, however, of a Moorish soldier goes farther to protect travellers than his long gun. Here we were able to account for the appearance of the two skeletons near the tomb of the Saint, by the famine which had raged all over the country the winter before. Numberless were the skulls, bones, entire skeletons, and half-rotten corpses of human beings, which we passed on the road between Mendia and Sallèe. Some indeed were not even stripped of their clothes, and others but half devoured by the hyæna and the vulture, lay scattered over the plain. Here, two or three had dropped together and witnessed each other's sufferings—there the wretched victim of famine had crept beneath a bush to die in solitary anguish. Hundreds, nay even thousands, were said to have perished during the previous winter of absolute hunger.* The road now ran through a more cultivated country, abounding in water-melons and gourds. Previous, however, to reaching Sallèe, we observed vast numbers of old walls,

* At Tangiers I remarked the great scarcity of dogs, which in general infest Moorish and Turkish towns, and was informed that they had been eaten during the famine almost to a dog.

and a great many reservoirs for water, built with red sand-stone, and of most superior workmanship. I inquired of our guards and Hadge Hadoud as to the period when these had been constructed, when the latter told me that they had belonged to the negroes of former times, by which I should imagine that they were built by Muley Ishmael for the use of part of his numerous black army, which, most likely, he kept encamped on this side of the river. At least, I have never heard any thing of a black colony in this part of the country.*

The first indication of our arrival at the town of Sallèe, was the view of a very handsome aqueduct, which conveys a continual stream of water to the town from the distance of about three quarters of a mile to the eastward. This is at least as far as the eye can perceive as you approach it. To the eastward the depth of it continues to lessen until it is lost on high ground; to the westward it runs to the height of about fifty feet, and then turns and takes its course southward to the town. It is built of lofty Moorish arches in red sand-stone, but the appearance of it has been greatly injured by some succeeding blockhead, who has caused the interior of the arches to be built up, and with such paltry mate-

* I find that this is mentioned in Mr. Jackson's account of Sallèe, but the above-mentioned opinion was formed by myself in observing the large reservoirs for water, whose number seemed to argue that they had been built for the consumption of horses as well as men, and thence arose the idea that the place in question had been occupied by Ishmael's black army, consisting chiefly of cavalry.

rials, that this part of it has, from many of the arches, fallen out. The object of this piece of folly has evidently been to render that a defensive wall and aqueduct, which before only answered the latter purpose; and by this means did this wise engineer propose to risk the safety of a public work, which must have cost an infinite deal of labour and an immense expense, by exposing it as an object of resistance to an invading enemy, whose cannon would in ten minutes render unavailing the work of years. We soon arrived at the passage under the aqueduct, which is one of the arches which has been left open for the purpose of a gate. On the right hand is a small stone reservoir, which is supplied by water from above, for the use of cattle arriving at the arch. Here we stopped to water our mules, and allow our baggage time to come up to us. Along the roadside lay an ancient quarry, from whence the sandstone for the building of the aqueduct must have been hewn. It forms a ditch of about fifty feet deep, both sides of which are of solid stone, perpendicularly upright, and so neatly cut, that the whole work bears the appearance of a military fosse. At the bottom of this quarry, which continues southward about three hundred yards, are gardens, producing an abundance of fruit and vegetables, and kept in the highest order.

We now proceeded onwards a short distance, with fine gardens on each side of the road, until we arrived at the walls of Sallèe, covered with storks, which here are to be found in greater num-

bers than at almost any other place I remember to have seen. They build their huge nests, formed of branches rather than sticks, between the numerous buttresses which ornament the top of a Moorish wall; and while the female sits hatching in her nest exposed to view, the male bird stands balancing on one leg by the side of his dame in a brown study. They seem generally to prefer the walls and fortifications of large towns, which arises in this country, I imagine, from the dilapidation, in which they are generally found, being favourable to the increase of those reptiles which are their principal food; and, indeed, to this benefit which they render the Moors, and their consequent protection from harm, may be ascribed the origin of all the superstitions concerning them. The quantity of the rubbish daily thrown over the walls of the town has made them assailable in many parts.

As we approached the river side on which Sallèe stands, we passed one of the old gates of the town, which has since been built into the modern walls. The arch, however, which is built of red sand-stone, is the most beautiful, as well as the largest, specimen of the Moorish style I have ever seen. The face of the stone, from the ground to the centre part of the arch, is richly carved in arabesque, and edged with well cut mouldings. It must have been raised at a period when Moorish architecture was pre-eminent. We soon found ourselves at the edge of the river which divides Sallèe from Rabat, and to which the

inhabitants give the name of Elmguz. It is not quite so broad as the Seboo, but is a more tranquil stream, and consequently better adapted for trade. This river, like all those I have seen on the western coast of Barbary, has also a bar of sand at its mouth, through which there is a narrow channel forced by the current of the river, by which vessels may enter when partly unladen. The scene which now presented itself to us was very agreeable.

On the opposite side of the river stands Rabat, on the ascent of rather a sharp hill, which is crowned with some very picturesque buildings, of considerable size, finely built with sand stone, of an Indian red colour, forming a pleasing contrast and variety to the eternal flat white-washed roofs, which so constantly offend the eye in all Moorish towns. The lofty walls of these buildings, whose dark sombre appearance is well suited to their purpose, comprise the castle, and public prison, and were built at the time when Sallèe rovers required a strong place of confinement, to restrain their numerous Christian captives. The river, after meandering from the eastward, between banks whose rapid descent must greatly increase the force of its current in rainy seasons, has deeply undermined the Rabat side, so as to form a lofty over-hanging cliff, and a small harbour of deep water, close under the walls of the castle, where vessels of no great tonnage may lie in security. On the top of the cliff, a little to the left of the ferry, the eye is arrested by the sight

of a most magnificent square tower, of a prodigious height,* whose surface is formed of exquisitely carved sand stone, and is deservedly reckoned one of the grandest and most highly worked specimens of Moorish architecture in the world; the top of it is in ruins.

The surface of the river presents rather a busy scene from the number of small boats that are continually conveying passengers from the one town to the other; and the ear of a European is unexpectedly gratified by the pleasing sound of the Spanish tongue, which is talked by all the boatmen, as they scramble and fight to get you into their boats, each of which is just large enough to carry two mules, and is rowed by one man. The alacrity of these watermen, and the skill they display in the management of their oars, do honour to their ancestors,—those far-famed rovers of ballad notoriety, who so long pirated on the African seas. Whilst our baggage was being ferried over the river, we waited under the above-mentioned cliffs, which I found to consist of solid sand stone, and so completely undermined by the swelling of the waters in the rainy season, that the whole appeared as if scooped into caves for the shelter of boats and spars. Hadge Hadoud, who had been into the town to acquaint the governor of our arrival, soon returned to us, in company with Mr. Sinbal, a good-natured looking Jew, who is the British Vice-consul at Rabat. He asked us in French to accompany him to his house; but

* Mr. Jackson says 180 feet high.

as the Governor had sent to say that one would be assigned us immediately for our lodging, we declined, at present, Mr. Sinbal's offer, and set off to meet the governor's people, who shortly appeared, headed by one of the king's black eunuchs, who came up to us, and bade us welcome in his master's name, by shaking hands with us all. He then bade us follow him, and away he trudged with a light elastic step, sending the crowd to the right and left with the most absolute authority. He at first led us to a European-built house, but the key not being forth-coming, we were taken to a Moorish one, amidst a great concourse of people, whom the soldiers kept off, by beating them indiscriminately over the heads with their sticks. At last we found ourselves in a spacious Moorish building, containing four large rooms, and a square in the centre with a fountain spout in the middle. Nothing could exceed the attention of the governor and Mr. Sinbal, who did all in their power to render us every possible attention. Large mats were spread on the floors, over which were laid soft coloured carpets, manufactured from wool, in imitation of those of Turkey. Each minute brought a fresh messenger, carrying every luxury the place could command. We soon changed our dirty clothes and dusty faces, and seating ourselves cross-legged on our pretty carpets, we did ample justice to the many good things which the governor's servants kept bringing in to us. Pickled fish, couscousou, baked meat, and a profusion of fine fruit, were presented

to us by slaves, who afterwards carried them to our hungry guards. In the evening, fresh supplies arrived of tea, sugar, butter, milk, and wax-candles. We now felt ourselves very merry; our fatigue gave a relish to our repast, and the prospect of a comfortable night's rest, when compared with those of the preceding ones, heightened the pleasure.

Just as we were preparing to take our tea, Hadge Hadoud returned in company with another friend, who could boast of the most beautiful black beard I ever beheld, and another young Moor, Hadoud's adopted son, whom we had formerly seen at Gibraltar. The mother of this young man was a sergeant's daughter in that garrison, and married a Moor, a most intimate friend of Hadoud's. The wife, however, soon took to drinking, and died in consequence. The husband was doatingly fond of his wife, whom Hadoud describes as having been very beautiful, and took her death so much to heart, that he fell dangerously ill, and having called Hadoud to his bed-side, he conjured him by all the sacred ties of friendship, never to desert his children, a boy and two girls, whom he committed to his care. Hadoud, having no family of his own, promised his dying friend to adopt the children, and rear them with kindness and attention. The sequel does great honour to our friend's heart, who finding that the children had imbibed more of their mother's faith than their father's, had them smuggled away from Gibraltar to Tangiers, where they were educated

in the Mahommedan religion. The boy afterwards returned to Gibraltar, where he was put to school, and having received a good education, he again left the rock, and came to Rabat, shortly before our arrival there. Hadoud intends settling part of his property on him at his death, and to marry one of his young sisters, whom he pronounces angelic, and if she resemble her brother, she well may be so, for he combines all the fairness of an Englishman with the fine outlines of a Moorish countenance. His adopted father was in rather low spirits at finding him in a weak state of health; but the doctor assured him that the complaint was not of any consequence, and thereby restored him to his wonted spirits. We all now sat down, and the conversation turned on our past journey, over which we had many a hearty laugh. Hadoud informed us that the Governor begged to have the pleasure of seeing us the next morning, and we promised to be in readiness to wait upon him.

CHAPTER VII.

A Visit to the Governor of Rabat.—Hadoud's Partner described.—A Visit to the Royal Gardens, and, on the road, to the House of a Female Saint.—The Royal Gardens described.—An Interview with a Jew there, &c.

We rose rather late the following morning, and found the Governor's people ready to conduct us to their master's presence; we therefore took a hasty breakfast, and walked to the Governor's house. We found the old man, who appears to be about seventy years of age, and bears some marks of having seen service as a soldier, seated in a dark narrow passage—the entrance of his house, into which, I suppose, his religious scruples prevented his admitting us, and after the usual ceremony of civil speeches and protestations of friendship, he begged the doctor's advice as to his health, which was suffering under that universal complaint, old age. The doctor promised him some relief for his respiration, which was rather difficult, and we then took our departure.

On our return to our house, we found that the interpreter, a little English Jew, had arrived from Tetuan, where he had travelled in great haste to

overtake us. Hadoud now joined us, and we went to his house, to see his son who had passed rather a bad night. Here we found a bluff-looking old Moor, with a beard that might have been called blue rather than grey. Hadoud introduced him as his friend and partner in business. Our English Vice-consul having begged we would visit him this morning, we took Hadoud with us, and proceeded to the Jew's house. Here we were treated with tea, which is served up at all hours of the day in this country, and afterwards with wine, spirits and sweetmeats, which in their turn, were superseded by cigars. The host now introduced his wife, whose case, which was no other than want of children, he hoped the doctor would take under his consideration. The poor woman, who had a very fine pair of black eyes, and a rosy complexion, looked like any thing but the picture of sterility, and the husband cut but a bad figure among the jokes which were lavished at his expense.*

After many excellent remedies prescribed for the benefit of the Sinbal line, we returned home. After dinner, the Sultan's black eunuch came to ask us if we chose to accompany him to the royal gardens, and, as the evening was fine, we agreed to the proposal; and we set off with two of our guard, and him of the neuter gender. In pas-

* Mr. Sinbal was arrested at Rabat, about two months after this, by the governor, for endeavouring to smuggle silver out of the country; and being thrown into prison, was fined 8000 dollars, as the price of his freedom.

sing through a narrow street, we inquired if a light could be procured for our cigars, upon which the black eunuch ran into a house and obtained us one, when one of the soldiers told me that this was the house of a female Saint, whereupon I immediately inquired if we might be allowed to see her. The eunuch being informed of my desire, went into the house again, and presently returned with permission for us to enter, and we were immediately ushered into the presence of the Saint. She was seated cross-legged upon a carpet, and rested her back against the wall. Her person, which was fat, was entirely enveloped, from the neck downwards, in a dark green cloak; her head was small and round, her eyes brown and possessing great brilliancy, and a small mouth and good teeth added expression to a countenance not regularly pretty, but very pleasing and good-humoured. She had however seen her best days, although she appeared to be only about five-and-twenty years old. Her greatest charm was her hair, which fell down upon her shoulders in natural silken ringlets of the most brilliant jet. Never do I remember to have seen so beautiful a head of hair. We made our salams, and she pointed to her carpet, desiring we would be seated. Our guards fell down, and touching the hem of her garment with the most profound veneration, kissed their hands, and then seated themselves around her. She opened the conversation by wishing us joy of our safe arrival at Rabat, and promising us a

speedy termination of our journey, and a most favourable reception by the Sultan. She then asked which was the doctor, and upon his being pointed out to her, she held out her hand for him to feel her pulse. She complained of cold and sore throat, for which he promised to send her some physic. She then turned suddenly to me, and said that "the two I had left at Gibraltar were very well, and that I should find the young one on my return as I left her;" then addressing Mr. Murray, she promised him happiness of the same sort. All this was said without the least appearance of premeditation; on the contrary, from the suddenness with which she turned from one subject to another, and the wild abstracted look of her countenance, she seemed incapable of dwelling long on any subject. It was ludicrous to observe with what intense interest her audience listened to the loose incoherent sentences which at intervals she uttered. At times her mind appeared so abstracted, that she did not seem aware of our presence, and frequently shook back her long dark tresses, and drew her hand across her forehead, as if endeavouring to meet her absent thoughts.

At last she assured us, that every good would attend us during our stay at Marocco, and the scene ended by a short prayer which she mumbled to herself, followed by another in which she was joined by all the company present. They then all knelt down, and bowing their heads to the ground, kissed the hem of her garment, and took

their leave. Just, however, as we were going away, she begged the Doctor to look at a relation of her's, who was then in the house, and troubled with weak eyes. She then pointed to a door which was just enough open to allow of our seeing a pair of bright and dangerous-looking orbs, which appeared to me to have no reason to be called *weak*. A round snowy arm, decorated with a huge silver bracelet, was thrust out through the opening for the Doctor's inspection; for these people imagine that every disease of the body is to be judged of by the pulse.

We were not aware, until we left the female Saint, how great an honour had been conferred on us by our admission to her presence. She is, as Hadoud told us, one of the most celebrated Saints in the kingdom. He added that the Sultan sends her, every now and then, a hundred dollars, and waits upon her in person; and that every one who comes to Rabat makes her some present; that she had very great powers of prophecy; and that we should find how every thing would come to pass as she had predicted. We asked Hadoud why *he* had not been to see her; he replied, that her eyes were so touching, that he was afraid of committing so great an impiety as that of being more pleased with the sight of her charms as a woman, than her presence as a Saint. This delicacy of our friend reminded me of that feeling, the *reverse* of which actuated Don Juan in his devotions, when, as Lord Byron says,

> "He turn'd from grisly Saints, and martyrs hairy,
> To the fair portrait of the Virgin Mary."

The Sultan's garden is just outside of the town-wall, and is nothing more than a plantation of olives and pomegranates. Opposite the gate, as you enter it, the Sultan is building a small dwelling-house, and behind this, at the further extremity of the garden, against a wall, there stands a little *bijoux* of a summer-house, about ten feet square, used in this country by great men as their receiving or audience-room. The interior of this little apartment was beautifully paved with coloured tiles, an inch square, and the roof and back part neatly and curiously painted in a thousand elegant patterns. In the centre was a fountain, and the front, and part of the sides, were formed of glass sashes, so as to admit of the Sultan's seeing those who approached him. As there was little else in the garden to excite our curiosity, or raise our admiration, we were preparing to return, when we observed a Jew gathering a species of plant bearing a small yellow flower; and upon inquiring the use of it, the Jew came up to us, and asked the Doctor if he could render him any help in quieting a degree of nervousness of mind that was weighing him down; and upon being questioned as to the origin of this nervousness, he replied, that about five months ago he had been arrested with a number of other rich Jews by the Sultan's command; some of whom were bastinadoed until they surrendered their money, and one had died of the infliction; that all this passed before his eyes, so that he was in momentary expectation of undergoing the same

severity of discipline; and that it so frightened him, that he had never recovered the steadiness of his nerves since, and was wasting gradually away without experiencing any pain or illness: that upon stating his case to another Jew, he had recommended him to try the use of the above-mentioned flower, which he had obtained leave of the eunuch to pick in these gardens, and was now come to procure some for the first time, and wished to know the Doctor's opinion on the virtue of the plant. Dr. Brown looked at the flower, and then told the Jew that he had better be cautious how he used it, as he believed it possessed poisonous qualities. I then turned to the Jew, and asked him if it was his *heir* that had prescribed for him, to which he instantly replied, looking half fearfully at the eunuch, who was roaring with laughter, that God knew he would not be a rich man that was his heir. The idea of the heir prescribing for the Jew so tickled the black fellow, that for half an hour afterwards he kept bursting out into fits of laughter. I certainly never saw so melancholy an example of the effects of fear as the emaciated figure before us. But this is not the only case I have seen in Barbary of people dying from the effects of their own imaginations. There is a superstition very current among the Moors, that some people, particularly old or ugly ones, have a power of what they call "Fixing the evil eye upon you." The eye of the serpent is not more dreaded by the bird than is this evil eye by the Moors. When I was at Tangiers, I was

shewn a Moor, a servant of Mr. Douglass, the Consul, who was suffering from the withering effects of this spell. He had fallen in love with an old woman's daughter; but meeting another in whom more charms were centered, he was induced to forsake his first love, and marry his second; since which time the old woman has, he says, fixed the evil eye on him, and the poor man is gradually pining away, a prey to his own fear.

There is also another superstition concerning the administering of dead men's bones, which is very common in this country. A young Moorish woman came to our house at Marocco to beg the Doctor's advice concerning her health, which she described as suffering from the revenge of a female acquaintance, who had administered to her some powder of dead men's bones in cakes, which she had from time to time sent her as a present. The unhappy woman was wan and thin, and yet complained of nothing but general debility and lowness of spirits.

We left the garden, and passing through the market-place, an immense space inside of the walls of the town, surrounded by small bazaars for the vendors, we went out of the south-western gate of the town, which is finely built and arched in red sand-stone. Continuing along the outside of the wall, we passed a number of gardens to our left, until we came to another gate, through which we passed into the town. The wall of Rabat is lofty and well built, the work, I believe, of Christian slaves.

In returning to our house, we passed the Sultan's harem, which was pointed out to us by the black eunuch. It is a large square building, neatly painted on the outside. Our conductor, I found, was the Cerberus of this mansion, and he informed me that the Sultan had at present fifty women there, over whom he, the eunuch, ruled with despotic sway. As I had a desire to see the domestic economy of a harem, I tried to persuade him to take me into one of the apartments of the women, while he sent them into another part of the house; but as I had to make my offer through the medium of a Jew, he was afraid to grant it. Had I been able to ask the favour myself, I have no doubt but I had *that* in my pocket which would instantly have procured me my request; for I believe that money would admit one into any harem in the country.

After tea, Hadoud came to acquaint us, that the Basha of Sallèe, who is a great friend of his, had sent for him, and asked him how he could think of passing under his very walls, with English officers, without paying him a visit. He had excused himself by pleading his anxiety to see his son, and by stating that the Englishmen had preferred staying at Rabat, for the greater convenience of not having the river to pass when they were ready to proceed to Marocco; but that he was sure they would not leave Rabat without waiting upon him. He then told us that the Basha had named the day following for the visit, and begged we would come to his house to din-

ner. We were much gratified by the civility of this invitation, and we promised Hadoud to be in readiness the next morning at eight o'clock, to accompany him to Sallèe. Shortly after this the governor of Rabat's son came in, attended by two or three Moors of distinction, who all had some little ailment for which they begged medicine. The governor's son having inquired if we were supplied with every thing we wished, and being answered in the affirmative, produced a small bottle, which Hadoud took from his hand, and asked the doctor if he could inform him what medicine it contained, saying that it had been given to the governor by the captain of a vessel, as a remedy, and that he had never taken it because he thought it was not good for his complaint. By the extreme anxiety displayed by the Moors present, it was easy to perceive that they looked upon it as poison; but their fears were soon dispelled by the doctor's applying it to his lips to ascertain the ingredients, and assuring them as well of its innocence, as of its inefficacy as a remedy for the governor's complaint. From this suspicion of administering poison, even Doctor Brown himself did not escape, as will be seen in my account of Marocco. Our party soon after broke up; but I must not omit to mention, that the female Saint of whom I have before spoken, sent her servant for the physic which had been promised her, with her *best compliments*, and she should feel much obliged if we would send her a little tea and sugar. With this demand we were forced to comply, rather than shock the feel-

ings of our friends, who would have looked upon the refusal as nothing short of impiety. In fact it was our easy compliance with their prejudices and manners, that procured us much good will during our stay in Barbary.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Travellers are introduced to Hadoud's Partner. —Visit the Basha of Sallèe.—Their Interview and Entertainment.—The Basha's Person and Manners described.—Mode of feeding among the Moors.—The House of the Sultan of Rabat described.—The Harem spoken of, &c.

We rose early the next morning, and, having breakfasted lightly, we set off with Hadoud to see his son, who had leeches applied by the doctor's advice. I could not help being much amused at the sober dignified deportment which our friend, the Hadge, had assumed since our arrival at Rabat: here every one was kissing the shoulder of him who had been to the prophet's shrine, while the sainted Hadge laid his hand upon their heads and returned them his blessing. I rallied him on his sudden transformation from the easy companion of the bottle, to the grave dignified Hadge, when he replied, good-humouredly, *Aqui, soy santo,* and suiting the action to the word, the quick-silver of his countenance fell suddenly, from the jovial, to the freezing point.

We found his son rather relieved by the leeches, and therefore better than he had been the evening before. Hadoud's partner in business shortly after

came in, and welcomed us to his house. He had a large bushy beard, of a blueish grey, approaching nearer to the colour of that of the memorable Blue Beard, of wife-killing notoriety, than any I have ever seen. His figure was short, square, and pursy, and his head swathed in the contents of a whole linen warehouse, by way of a turban; while a pair of bright yellow breeches, which for size would have gained a prize at a Dutch fair, and large yellow slippers, with pointed up-turned toes, and thick soles, combined to throw into his whole appearance more of the ludicrous than the terrible, notwithstanding the tint of his beard, which had recalled to my memory my nurse's blue-bearded bugbear. Some excellent tea and muffins were then brought in, of which we were obliged to partake, notwithstanding our recent repast, lest old Blue Beard should imagine we scorned his hospitality. After we had finished our tea, we proceeded to the river, accompanied by Hadoud and his partner, which we crossed, and then walked towards the far-famed Sallèe, of ballad celebrity. It is situate about four hundred yards from the side of the river, and lies on a dead flat. It is not by any means so considerable a place as Rabat, and has fewer remains of former grandeur; but it has the advantage of containing numbers of beautiful gardens within its walls, and is the seat of government to the province in which it stands. The Basha, Hadoud informed us, is sprung from an hereditary family, which has always possessed the Bashalick, from which it

may naturally be inferred that it is a powerful and independant province.

When at Marocco, we heard several vague reports concerning a misunderstanding between the Sultan and this Basha; and we found, from the cool manner in which our conversation about the latter was met, that he evidently was in the black books at court. There was a rumour soon after of his having been driven from Sallèe by the royal troops, and when we came to Mogadore we inquired of a friend of Hadoud's, whom we had seen at Rabat, whether the reports we had heard were true; when he replied, that the Basha had been away from Sallèe for some time, but was now again settled at that place. It is more than probable that this hereditary Basha looks upon the Emperor as an intruder on legitimacy, though he is not powerful enough to dispute the Sultan's right to the succession.

After passing the southern gate of the town we entered a road running through inclosures of beautiful gardens abounding in fine orange and pomegranate trees. Upon arriving at the house of the Basha, we were received by a black eunuch of a remarkably handsome person and dress. He informed us that his master was going to his garden, where he would meet us. We therefore turned back, followed by an immense crowd of half-wild mountaineers and townsmen, who, eager to satisfy their curiosity by gaping at our handsome uniforms, kept crowding round us, uttering shouts of delight. Just as we reached the garden gate, the

rabble had pressed so close upon our heels, that I began to entertain some fears for the safety of my wings and coat tails; when the eunuch, who perceived our situation, loosed from his shoulder a red thong of twisted leather,* and springing forward at the mob with the activity and fierceness of a tiger, he laid on the lash so wholesomely that the crowd rushed back in wild confusion. One fellow, however, more bold than the rest, still lingered near us, scornfully eyeing the black minion of despotism, who no sooner observed him, than he gathered himself up to give more force to his blow, and darting forward at the man like a coiled snake, gave a swing to his thong, and struck the Moor in his face, over the nose and eyes, with such force, that I verily believe he must have peeled off some of the flesh. I did not, however, see that such was the case; for the savage lictor repeated his blow with such rapidity, that I could not observe the countenance of the unlucky wight, who turned suddenly round with stifled rage, and mixed with the crowd. We then entered a door, and passing through the lower rooms of a house, found ourselves in the garden. The building through which we passed is a sort of retirement, or summer-house. On the ground floor there is an apartment open towards the garden, and immediately in front was a square tesselated

* This is called the *Asfel*. It is made of red Taffilet goat-skin, tightly twisted into a cord of three strands, with knots, and worn by all the soldiers for the purpose of administering the bastinado, the instant the order is given to do so.

pavement of black and white marble, in the middle of which was a fountain, whose single spout of water, proceeding from the centre of a white marble base, supported an orange at its top. The upper story of the house represented a long open gallery, or verandah, supported by small wooden pillars and arches, and inclosed at the bottom by a low rail or palisade of wood, neatly carved and turned. At the back of this was another open apartment, running parallel with the gallery, and having in the middle of the hall, a small recess or receiving place of the Basha's.* Here were spread rich carpets over finely wove mats, which with a French mantle-piece clock, and two telescopes, formed the furniture of this favoured resting-place of royalty. The interior of this gallery and the inner room, exhibit some of the finest specimens of Moorish house-painting, which for the vast variety of fantastically elegant patterns, and the brilliancy of the colours, I have never seen equalled in any country.†

The gallery commands a view of the garden, which was well stocked with fruit and vegetables. Here Hadoud introduced us to several of the

* These recesses are to be found in all the houses of Bashas and great men; they are made just large enough for two people to sit in, so as to prevent assassination from behind.

† The artist was at this very time painting a door for a room below, and displayed wonderful ingenuity in devising patterns, and blending a variety of colours with great harmony. The patterns are first penciled out, and then painted and varnished. Some of the colours possess a brilliancy surpassing any I have ever seen. This art, however, is fast decaying.

Basha's great men, who joined us at intervals in the verandah. It was some time before the Basha himself made his appearance; at last, however, a sudden exclamation of *seedna! seedna!* announced his approach, and a tall elegant figure, enveloped in a sky-blue *bornouse** was seen advancing towards us, from a gate at the farther end of the garden. Every one now made room, and the Basha, attended by his son, a boy of about ten years of age, entered the gallery, and bowing his head gracefully in return to our salutations, passed on and seated himself in the little recess before mentioned. He then motioned us to seat ourselves on some chairs that had been procured for us, and calling Hadoud to him, he bade him place himself in the recess by his side, a piece of confidence which, while it bestowed honour on Hadoud, also shewed the Basha's good sense and breeding. The whole divan being now squatted about the room, the usual complimentary speeches concerning health, &c. commenced on both sides, during which I had time to observe the person of the Basha.

Seldom, if ever, have I seen in any country so handsome a man. His eyes, which were coal black, and of an extraordinary size, were rendered even more beautiful by having the eyelids blackened. His nose was prominent and aquiline; his mouth small and expressive; his teeth large and white; and his noble features thrown into fine

* The use of the sky-blue bornouse is a royal privilege.

relief by a jetty beard of most prodigious growth. His well-shaped head was encircled by a low turban of white muslin, tastefully arranged, and partially covered by a transparent haik of delicate workmanship. The rest of his person was concealed by his cloth bornouse down to his ancles, which were naked, and on his small well-made feet were thin slippers of yellow Marocco leather. His manners and deportment were gracious and dignified; his conversation was shared between us and his friends; and, in short, he possessed all those advantages which nothing but hereditary rank, and consciousness of high birth, can bestow. He seemed much pleased by the intimacy that subsisted between his old friend Hadoud and ourselves. A tame antelope, with which his son was playing, and which he from time to time caressed, brought on the subject of hunting, of which he seemed to be very fond. He then told us that he had had great sport the day before with a wild boar, sow and young ones, which had been caught on the mountains, and turned loose before a number of dogs. He invited us to come and spend a few days with him, and he would shew us some excellent sport in the way of boar-hunting in the neighbouring country. We thanked him, and expressed our regret at not being able to stay long enough at Rabat to accept of his kind offer; and he then begged we would promise to visit him on our return from Marocco.

The black eunuch was then ordered to bring in tea, which the Basha desired Hadoud to prepare

for us. An English tea-board then made its respectable appearance, attended by a tea-kettle of steam-engine dimensions, and covered with mutilated coffee-cups of all ages, shapes, and sizes; and two large bowls of curious *Fezzan* earthenware, full of rich milk, formed the advance-guard of the motley Chinese corps drawn up behind them. Almond-paste cakes and sweetmeats were then handed round, the making of which is the business of the harem ladies; and here I may mention, that I have seen such a vast variety of finely-made pastry at weddings in this country as would have caused a Parisian pastry-cook to die of envy. We had scarcely finished our tea when a huge baking-dish was set before us, containing nearly half a sheep, and so exquisitely dressed and so finely flavoured, as to surpass any dish I have ever partaken of. My companions fully agreed with me, and we were preparing to do justice to its merits, when we missed the knives and forks. The Basha, seeing what we stood in need of, sent immediately for what in Barbary are considered superfluous articles of luxury, where the use of knives and forks has not yet superseded that of the fingers; but Hadoud, seizing on the joint before him, began to pull it to pieces with his fingers, and culling the choicest and fattest parts, he offered them to us; at first we hesitated, from the force of cleanly habit, in receiving these delicate morsels from the hands of the Hadge; but on his giving us a hint in Spanish, "not to offend the company by our *fantasia*," but to do

as others did, we gave up all our scruples of delicacy, and fell to with so good a grace upon the baked mutton, that we soon convinced the Moors that we knew the way to our mouths without the help of knives and forks. Bunches of delicious grapes were handed round to us to eat with our meat, a custom well worthy the notice of those *qui vivent pour manger;* and to please the Moors you must adopt this maxim. It was in vain that I declared to Hadoud that I had amply satisfied my appetite; he kept groping about the dish, exclaiming *Mira, mira,* as he held up between his thumb and fingers the fat parts of the meat,* which I was forced to accept. He declared that we had not eaten half a dinner; and he told us that when the Moors had eaten so much as to make it uncomfortable to themselves, they rubbed their stomachs against the wall, by which they were enabled to continue their feast, and that by taking large draughts of water at intervals, they re-animated their appetites and prevented repletion. Basins of cold water were then brought to us, and we washed our hands, whilst the black slaves carried away the mangled remains of the meat, and placed them before the Basha and his Ministers, who all huddled round the dish, and gave us a very fair specimen of what a Moor can eat. I shall never forget the amusement afforded

* The Moors eat the entire fat in preference to the lean; but the manner of baking their meat is so superior, that the fat seems to lose its usual grossness, and becomes not only palatable, but as desirable as the fat of turtle.

us by the contrast between our friend Blue Beard and an old, lean-faced, spare-ribbed Secretary, who sat opposite to him, and seemed to be his partner in the royal game of eating; and well they played it too, for their *hands* were *in* long after those of the rest of the party were out. For some time the longitude of the quill-driver seemed well calculated to compete with the latitude of Blue Beard's belt, and they would probably have shared the food between them, but that the latter was supplied with a most invincible set of masticators, of four-jaw power, which continued, for some time, like the stones of a stopped mill, to grind without grist, from their own momentum, while the efforts of the Secretary had long ceased from weakness. Coffee was now served, and we lighted our cigars and walked out into the garden, whilst the Doctor remained with the Basha, who wished to consult him concerning his health. There being nothing to interest us in the garden, we returned to the Basha, of whom we took leave, after expressing our gratification at having been so kindly treated. He again made us promise that we would stay a few days with him on our return from Marocco, and then wished us a pleasant journey.

We returned to Rabat greatly pleased at the disinterested hospitality and elegant manners of the handsome Basha of Sallèe. On arriving at our house, we found that the civility of Mr. Sinbal had furnished us with a very plentiful and excellent dinner, but having done justice to the Basha's

feast, we agreed to accompany the black eunuch to the Sultan's-country house. It is situated about a mile from the town, and we were much disappointed in finding it almost unworthy the trouble. The situation is healthy, and the house stands on a cliff overhanging the sea. The interior contains four long narrow rooms, very much out of repair; masons were, however, then at work to prepare it against the future arrival of the Sultan. The harem apartments consist of about twenty rooms or cells, eight feet by six, just large enough to hold a bed. The whole put me more in mind of a dog-kennel than a residence for the fair sex. Each door was furnished with a huge cross-bolt of iron, and a lock, the safeguard of chastity in Moorish women. In these solitary cells, the eunuch told us, the ladies were nightly secured, and let out in the morning to wash themselves in a small bath supplied with water by a fountain in the centre of the court-yard, round which the rooms are placed. Such are the Moorish notions of female society, that they look upon women in no other light than as instruments of pleasure and sensuality. A Mussulman is allowed three wives by the law of his religion, and as many concubines as he chooses. The former of these are white women—the latter are young black girls brought from the interior, or taken as captives by the Sultan's troops. The offspring of the latter, if the birth be not hastened, are the slaves of the father, over whom he has power of life and death. It is through the use of these female slaves that the

Moorish blood has become mixed with that of the negro race, and thus produced a half caste, which in number far exceeds the white population in Marocco.

The Moors have a great dislike to the children of their slaves, who being bred with a lively sense of their dependant state, of course take every opportunity of robbing their father. Numberless are the means made use of to procure abortion; to prevent the necessity of which, they purchase young girls of eleven and twelve years old, who are thus early initiated into the acts of servile lust, without the fear of fecundity.

On our return home we found the brother of the female Saint waiting for us, who had some complaint for which he wished the Doctor to prescribe. Seeing him very thankful for the Doctor's advice, and inspired by the same feeling of earthly admiration for the Saintess which Hadoud had so devoutly combated, I thought it not an unfit opportunity to beg a lock of his sister's *divine* head of hair, as a memento or relic of so great a personage; and he promised to ask it of her, and to let me know the result the next day.

CHAPTER IX.

Preparations for departing from Rabat. — A Message and Present from the female Saint. — The Travellers take leave of their friend Hadoud Kissouse and proceed on their Journey. — Account of their Escort. — The Aversion of the Moors and Jews to Swine. — Arrival at Dar el Beda, and Description of that Place.

As we had decided upon leaving Rabat on the 30th of July, we passed the 29th in preparing for our departure. During the course of the day supplies of every thing we could desire were munificently supplied by the Governor. After breakfast we were visited by a musician, who played on a sort of clarionet made of thin wood. It had a reed mouth-piece, such as is used by us with that instrument, over which was passed a flat circular piece of mother-of-pearl about the size of a dollar; against this the player strongly pressed his lips, while he blew through the mouth-piece, and his cheeks being inflated by this means, he continued to supply the instrument with wind, as from the bag of a Highland pipe, and produced a very high-toned sound as much like the higher notes of that instrument as possible. I was in the act of purchasing it from the man, when the black eunuch came in, and walked him off to the

Governor's house to play there. The fellow had no idea of notes, but played from ear, and in several wild tunes managed his instrument with great skill.

In the evening I was much amused by a messenger from the female Saint, who came with his mistress's compliments, and begged I would excuse her for not having sent her hair, but that she had sent me what would be much more valuable to me; and as she had blessed it, it would act like a charm upon me, and would be the means of my being very well received by the Sultan. My reader will imagine that this valuable talisman was a *ring* with precious stones, or a *gold ornament;* but will be as much surprised, as I was amused, when he hears that it was a piece of her green cloak; for which she begged in return, that, if I went to Fez, I would bring her a small gold ring. The absurdity of the lady's asking such a boon in return for a dirty bit of green cloth, tempted me greatly to burst into laughter in the face of the messenger; but prudence bade me keep my countenance; so folding up the cloth, I put it into my bosom, and with a grave face I desired the man to tell his mistress I should remember her if I went to Fez; and having dismissed him, we enjoyed a hearty laugh at the expense of the silly woman, who had imagined that she could gull *us* as she did those around her.

Hadoud Kissouse had given us hopes that he should find it necessary to accompany us to Marocco, as he had some difference with the

Governor of Rabat concerning his mercantile affairs, which he had not been able to settle, and therefore was going to lay his case before the Sultan: but on the morning of the 30th, he came to tell us that he had abandoned his intention. Though we were glad to find that his dispute with the Governor was at an end, we were very sensible of the loss of his agreeable society. On our journey thus far he had acted in the several capacities of friend, companion, interpreter, and paymaster, in each of which he had exerted himself to the utmost to please us; and we all concurred in lamenting the necessity of parting from so good a creature. It may be said of the Moors, that though they are an uneducated people, there are among them many of a very superior order, who are possessed of a delicate sense of politeness, and a suavity of manners, rarely equalled even in the polished circles of Europe. Their ideas of friendship are firm and constant, and their honour unquestionable. Such is the character of our friend Hadoud, of whom we took an affectionate farewell, and left Rabat at ten o'clock.

We now proceeded along the sea-coast until we came to the river Sharat, a narrow stream, which we forded, and then entered an extensive plain partially covered with stunted shrubs. A few sharp rocks, about twenty feet high, rising suddenly out of the dead flat plain, were all that we passed worthy remarking. Here our guards told us that the people were *Mala Gente*, and shortly after one of our men rode off to a douar on our

left, and returned accompanied by four mounted soldiers, who had been ordered by the Governor of Rabat to be in readiness to strengthen our escort and see us safe through the province under his command. These fellows were the finest men I had seen any where; they rode with spirit, and seemed, indeed, anxious to encounter danger in the discharge of their duty.

At mid-day we met two or three parties of horsemen, of about forty in number, who were returning from Marocco to Tangiers, Tetuan, and other provinces; it being, it seems, the practice for all the Caids and soldiers to repair to the royal standard during the Paschal Feasts, which had then just terminated. These people were well dressed and armed, but their horses were very small and poor. Shortly after this, we seated ourselves under a fig-tree, and partook of some refreshment, but we were tormented by the disgusting grasshopper tribe which I have mentioned before, and I was again able to confirm what I formerly observed of the cannibal character of this scourge of the country. At four o'clock we came to a small stream which divides the province of Rabat from that of Dar el Beda,or "The White House." Here our additional escort left us, and crossing the stream, we continued onwards on our route to Dar el Beda.

We had hardly proceeded a mile, when a horseman was seen riding over a neighbouring hill. As soon as he observed us he rode back, and again immediately returned in company with two more

horsemen with long guns. Having been told that this country was much infested with robbers, I thought it would be prudent to be prepared in case of an attack. I therefore, on seeing these fellows, immediately loaded my double-barrelled gun with ball, and waited the issue of the scene. Our guards, upon descrying the men on the hill, stopt short, and drawing up in a line in front of us, they proceeded slowly on, with their long guns erect, towards the opposite party, who were now strengthened to the number of seven or eight, by others who came riding over the hill, one after the other, and falling into line, as our soldiers had done. In this manner the two parties approached each other with silence, and more order than I should have given them credit for being able to preserve. The opposite party soon came near enough to make us entertain considerable doubts as to the honesty of their *calling*. They appeared to be strong and hardy, and the few garments that graced their persons, fluttered in party-coloured rags about them. Their heads were bare, as well as their feet, and they sat with ease, and even gracefulness on the bare backs of their thin, but active horses, which they managed with great skill. The appearance of such men in a country of ill-fame, was well calculated to excite the most unfavourable impressions. The two parties had approached within about pistol-shot of one another, when they mutually drew up their horses, and the two commanders walked their horses forward until they met half-way. Here salaams were exchanged,

and, after a long conversation, the two parties rode up to each other, and shook hands. We were then told that these were soldiers of the Dar el Beda province, stationed at this place as guards, and we therefore dismissed our apprehensions, and proceeded onwards, escorted by this ragged troop. Shortly after this, one of the Arabs rode away, and in a few minutes the neighbouring bushes were peopled, as it were by magic, with a still more ill-looking race of men on foot. These were seen running amongst the brushwood, which covered the plain, and joining us in parties of two and three, armed with guns and daggers. As soon as this straggling party had collected, our horsemen again drew up on both sides, and after some compliments, we were consigned over to the care of our new escort, and the horsemen rode off to their station on the heights. Our party now moved on, attended by the infantry of the province, who are said to be good soldiers; but I do not hesitate to say that one regiment of regular European troops would put ten thousand of them to the rout with ease.

At five o'clock we arrived at a very large douar of sixty tents, pitched in a circle, in the centre of an extensive plain, in the middle of which was a tent for the cavalry, ten in number, who were stationed amongst the Arabs to preserve order and discipline. This douar had, they told us, been lately placed there for the purpose of supplying those guards which we had met, and who are daily dispersed over the country to protect travel-

lers. We pitched our tents within the circle of the douar, and our animals were piqueted around us. The people of this horde seemed a hardy active race of men, many having little or no covering for their bodies, and others only a haik. Soon after our arrival, a Caid of Tetuan and four soldiers, on their return from Marocco, pitched their tent near ours. The old Caid appeared a man of some consequence, and rode one of the handsomest horses we had seen in the country. It was milk white, the head and shoulders perfect symmetry, and the tail and mane of great length, and possessing that silky quality which we know not of in England.

At six the next morning we broke up our encampment, and found the cavalry of the douar ready to attend us, as also a party of infantry. The former, however, left us on the road soon after, and struck off to another part of the plain, leaving us in charge of the latter. The country about here became thickly covered with bushes and stunted trees, offering most advantageous hiding places for robbers. This part of the road seems to be looked upon as very dangerous; for our wild Arabs dispersed about us, and running from bush to bush, left no suspicious place unsearched. At about eight o'clock we approached a large douar, to which one of our horsemen rode up, and calling out in the name of the Sultan, the whole douar turned out with great alacrity, to the number of about a hundred, who fell into line with shouldered arms, and remained in this position until we had

passed. Many of these men had old European bayonets, fixed on their long guns, weapons which they hold in great estimation, though they are unacquainted with the proper management of them. We soon passed these thickets, and entering a more open country, we came in sight of Monseria, a turreted enclosure of high walls, within which, is a small mosque and minaret. Here our reinforcement left us.

On arriving at the gate of this fortress we found it to contain a number of Arab tents within its walls, tenanted by that wandering race, who seem to despise the use of stone walls for their dwellings, and prefer living under their camel-hair tents in an atmosphere of smoke. Here we again entered a thickly-enclosed country of high broom and long grass, and soon after found ourselves at the mouth of the N-fiffee, a small river about two hundred yards broad. Our baggage having been left a little behind, we awaited its coming up, to cross the stream by fording. The tide was just setting in from the sea, and the bed of the river being low, the water was rapidly deepening; and though we much doubted whether this delay would not prevent us from passing over, we still could not attempt it until our baggage came up, as we might in that case be cut off from it until the next ebb. Our old muleteer, who knew the country, soon came up to us, and called out that we must ford immediately; and indeed he spoke just in time, for each minute considerably deepened the stream, and it was with the greatest

difficulty that some of the heavily-laden mules could resist the strength of the current, which swept with great force into the channel of the river. Had we delayed three minutes more, all our baggage and provisions would have been either lost or spoiled; as it was, we luckily escaped without any other mishap than what befel our servant, Abenshaloom,* a young Jewish lout of tender nerves, whose mule stumbling in the water, precipitated the affrighted son of a ladder into the stream, to the infinite amusement of the whole party. Our road ran through a low, flat country, covered with small bushes and monkey-dates, and from the uprooted state of the ground for many miles, there must be prodigious herds of wild boars through the whole country. The Moors make no use of this animal, the touching of which their religion prohibits; and as they are not worth killing, they increase amazingly. In well-populated parts of the country they are kept down by annual *batteux*, in which the whole population joins, but when shot, they are left untouched on the ground. It is most ridiculous to observe the aversion of the Moors and Jews to the pig tribe, which extends even to the touch and smell of these animals. A European cannot keep one from want of some one to feed it, for no consideration will induce a servant in this country to administer to poor piggy's comforts. It now and then happens that a rough mountaineer, for the love of gain, overcomes his less delicate feelings, and brings

* Abenshaloom, or Son of a Ladder.

one of the mountain-pigs* to a port to sell to a merchant-captain; but if by any chance the pig get loose in the market, the greatest confusion ensues by the animal's running amongst the legs of the crowd, who fly from him with as much horror as if he were a lion; the touch of this animal being reckoned so great a pollution as to cause the person to cast away that part of his dress which is so defiled by the unclean beast. We used frequently to amuse ourselves at Hadoud's expense, on our road to Rabat, by placing the ham on the table near his plate, which invariably called forth his bitterest invectives against this object of his disgust. He would neither eat meat boiled in the same pot which had once cooked a ham, nor touch a knife and fork lest they should have been used in the same service; and would frequently draw his chair at a distance from the table with so unhappy a countenance that it was impossible to resist laughing.

At twelve o'clock we passed F-dalla, a small walled town, about two miles from the sea-shore, with a mosque and minaret, which Ali Bey describes as being handsome. As we wished to reach Dar el Beda that evening, we did not enter F-dalla, but passed on to the bed of a torrent, four miles from the town. Here we found the ruins of an arched stone bridge. There was but little water in the bed of the torrent at this time;

* This is a very small animal, about the size of an English sucking-pig, striped brown and white from the head towards the tail. I have seen the same species at the island of Madeira.

but it was easy to judge of the quantity, in rainy weather, by the huge masses of solid stone and mortar, fifteen feet square, which have been carried away from the bridge to the distance of two hundred yards down the stream. On the opposite side of this torrent we seated ourselves under a fig-tree, and took some refreshment. The country between this and Dar el Beda is a sterile, sandy soil, covered only with the umbelliferous weed which I have mentioned before. Here it would seem that the whole country was allotted to the exclusive use of the snails, which adhere in such quantities to the dry stalks of the above-mentioned plant, as to appear to be the production of it, hanging in huge clusters of thousands on the ends of the boughs, and completely hiding the whole plant. It is impossible to give any adequate idea of the number and appearance of these snails, which are much esteemed by the natives, who boil them in salt water, and eat them with a pin, as we do in England the periwinckle or sea-snail. Dar el Beda, or "The White House," a name derived from its vicinity to Cape Blanco, of the Portuguese, is situated on the northern shore of a promontory, which, running out into the ocean, forms a sort of bay, where shipping can lie protected from the south-westerly winds, but are exposed to the north and north-westerly gales. The town is walled in, according to the Moorish ideas of fortification, whose artillery is a mere name which has hardly a *sound*. It is supplied from without by a stream of water, and appears

to have once been a place of some consideration; but is now a heap of miserable ruins fitter for the abode of hyænas than men. We were taken to a miserable house, near that of the Governor, in front of which was a small mosque and minaret. The people of Dar el Beda are a poor half-starved agueish-looking people. The Governor was very attentive to us, and immediately supplied us with all sorts of provisions and fruit. In the evening he sent to the Doctor to ask his advice concerning his health, upon which Dr. Brown repaired to his house, and found him suffering from the gout, for which he gave him a remedy, and the old gentleman in return made the Doctor a present of a small carpet. This is the only great man in the country, out of hundreds who consulted the Doctor, that ever made him the smallest return.

CHAPTER X.

The Travellers, leaving Dar el Beda, proceed on their Route. — Occurrences on the Road. — Arrival at Azamoor. — Departure from that Place. — Journey from Azamoor to Zowir, with its Incidents.

With very little regret did we take our departure, at an early hour in the morning of the 1st of August, from Dar el Beda. As we passed the gate of the town, our guards pointed out to us a man's head nailed over the archway, which appeared to be that of a man recently decapitated. We inquired the cause of his death, and were told his principal fault had been his great riches, for which he had paid too dearly. The country through which we now passed became more covered with underwood, and here and there a few palm trees. At about ten o'clock, we passed an Arab woman and her daughter, who were walking very fast in hopes of benefiting by our escort. Shortly after we halted; and the old lady came trudging along over the stones, apparently without the smallest consideration for the girl, whose small naked feet seemed ill suited to the stony plain over which we were travelling; and the distance she had already

walked had so fatigued her young limbs, that she could with difficulty keep pace with her Amazonian mother. As I passed her she looked up at me with such an appealing look, that I could not find it in my heart to allow her to continue her exertions, and calling to her, I bade her jump up behind me on my mule's back. The poor little girl, with eyes full of astonishment and gratitude, immediately placed her hand in mine, and sprang like an antelope on the back of the mule. By the aid of a carpet which I lent her, she soon arranged a little pad behind the saddle, and to the entire exposure of a pretty pair of brown legs she threw one on each side of the animal, and passed her arms round my waist, not a little delighted at finding herself so comfortably situated. She was rather pretty for an Arab girl, who in general are most repulsively ugly. She was very small, and well made, but like all her tribe, had high cheek bones, a flattish nose, and a large mouth ornamented with a most brilliant set of teeth. Her dress was composed of a thin cotton covering, a mere apology for a gown, which was passed at random round her person, which it sufficed but partially to conceal. She was about eleven years old, and the buddings of maturity were sufficiently observable to give a charm to that part of her person, which in Arab women, after child-bearing, assumes the most disgusting appearance. In fact, an elderly Arab woman is, to my eye, the most disgusting object in nature. In this state I journeyed on with my

little companion, who kept laughing and talking Arabic to me, not the least aware, apparently, that I scarcely understood a word she said, though I kept answering her *narma, lawah.** The guards were much amused at what they considered my condescension, in rendering personal aid to an Arab ; but the girl herself, with the prerogative of her sex, thought me amply repaid by the frequent kisses she lavished upon me, from time to time, when she wanted to coax me out of some grapes to appease her thirst ; for the sun was very hot during this day's journey. The pace of our mules soon became too fast for the girl's mother, who gradually dropped behind, until we entirely lost sight of her. In the evening, at about seven o'clock we encamped at a douar, near the sea-side, where, however, we found we were unable to procure provisions of any sort, all the cattle of the douar having died the year previous during the great famine. Here I set down my little charge, and she was joined during the night by her mother, whose fears for her daughter's safety had made her quicken her step on the road.

As we could get no refreshment over night, we struck our tents at six o'clock the next morning, and set off in pursuit of a douar, and at eight o'clock we stopped at one which lay a little way out of our road, and here we found almost the same degree of poverty as prevailed at the douar we had left. We, however, succeeded in procuring some fresh milk, and then continued our road along the borders of the sea-shore, over sand hills

* The Yes and No, of the Arabic.

covered with the before-noticed umbelliferous weed. All along the shore we passed numbers of Saints' tombs, and opposite one of these, the plain assumed a singular appearance, from the innumerable piles of stones, placed one upon another, to the height of three or four feet; the simple offering of travellers to the manes of some celebrated saint or *rogue*, whose body had been interred in one of the above-mentioned sepulchres. At ten we stopped at a well of excellent water, and a small farm for the cultivation of henna, a plant much resembling trefoil, and used as a dye by the Moors. The colour superinduced by it, is that of a dingy orange, though I have no doubt that it was originally used as a method of producing a roseate tint to the end of the nails, by mixing it with a vermilion, which would render the effect pleasing; in its present manner of use, it is far from being so. By mid-day we found ourselves at the side of the river Moorbeh, on the opposite side of which, on the crown of a hill and overhanging the river, stands Azamoor, formerly a Portuguese colony. The river Moorbeh is about two hundred yards wide at low water, at which time we passed over. It is a sluggish, and thence I suppose, a deep stream. It has all the appearance in colour of the Thames, whose muddy surface our bards have been pleased to term *silvery*. In rainy seasons it swells to a considerable size, and deposits a fine alluvial soil on the surrounding shores. This river, like all the others we passed, has become choaked up at the mouth with sand-

banks, so as to render it unsafe even for small boats, and from its Nilous qualities, this bank or bar must naturally increase.

On reaching the opposite side we despatched a soldier to the Governor announcing our arrival, in answer to which he sent to say that a house was in readiness for our reception; to this place we therefore repaired, and were introduced to the most filthy little closet we had seen in the country. We expostulated, but were told that the Governor was gone into his harem, and they dared not disturb him. We therefore made up our minds to pursue our journey the next morning. While we were awaiting on the shore the return of the messengers we sent to the Governor on our arrival, a dirty-looking fellow in the European costume came up to us, and introduced himself as a Jew merchant of Tetuan. He had just left Mazagan, he said, and was then boating his merchandise across the river to return to his own country. He then told the Doctor he was very glad he had arrived, for, being a bit of a doctor himself, he was much in want of medicine. This cool demand upon the Doctor's medicine chest was followed by an offer of some grog, which he had in a bottle, from which he ever and anon drew long draughts of lethe; and to complete our disgust he pulled out of his pocket a small paper, telling us he had something vastly curious to show us. From the fold of the papers, and the continued succession of coverings, I immediately concluded that this rare curiosity was some antique coin of value; but to my suprise as the

last bit of paper was opened, I discovered a number of little living insects, in shape and size much resembling bugs, but of a whitish colour, and longer in the legs. These, our officious friend informed us, had been his bed-fellows at Mazagan for some time, and had bitten him most severely, and that of all sorts of vermin, the bite of these was the worst. The fellow looked, indeed, as if he spoke from experience; and, had we done right, we should have given him a note to the Basha of Tetuan, recommending the bastinado to the rascal for importing a new species of vermin into his own country, to be the constant torment of future generations.

We were hardly settled in our house, before our back-biting bug-bearing friend came to visit us, and without further apology, sat himself down on a mat, saying how happy he felt at seeing us. I was in no humour at the moment to participate in his happiness, or to put up with impertinence from a Jew; and so without ceremony, I ordered him to walk out of the room, which he did instinctively, seeming greatly surprised, but by no means anxious to incur further displeasure by staying.

In the course of the evening we sent to the Governor for our usual supplies, but as they did not appear to be forth-coming, the Caid of our guard purchased the necessary provisions for us, and it was well he did so, for we heard nothing more about our supplies that day. In the evening a *Sheriffe* of some distinction waited upon the Doctor for medical advice, and took him to see

his wife, who was ill. Mr. Murray and I amused ourselves by administering medicine to an old Moor who lived over the way, and had rather a prétty fat daughter, with a head of hair of a most curious colour—a claret red. This is not uncommon in Barbary, though I do not remember to have seen it in any other country. The effect is very pleasing, and the hair, when of this colour, generally possesses a natural curl, and is very silky.

Azamoor is like all other Moorish towns, and beggars, of course, all description. It is surrounded on the land side by very high walls, rising out of deep fosses, and a few half-mounted cannon, are here and there seen straggling along the summit of these fortifications.

Early the next morning the Governor sent his father to the Doctor, to consult him concerning his eyes; and at the same time begged to present us with an old ram which the Governor had sent us by way of supply. I loudly exclaimed against receiving the present; Mr. Murray was also of my opinion; and the Doctor, who was for more moderate measures, at last yielded to our suggestions to send back the ram, with our compliments, saying that, as the present had come so late, we could not think of receiving it, having already provided ourselves with meat for our day's march. It is difficult to express the astonishment of the guards at what appeared to them our audacity in refusing the Governor's present. The Caid at first positively refused to bear back such a message; upon

which we pretended to be much offended with the Governor, and we declared we would leave the ram behind. A long discussion then took place as to the propriety of sending back the gift of so great a person, and as to what might be the consequences. I gave it as my opinion, that if we let ourselves down among the people, the consequence would be much more detrimental to us in future; and that on the contrary, by acting a spirited part on this occasion, and shewing them that we were not to be treated with indifference, we should impress them with the idea that we were as haughty as themselves. This, therefore, was decided upon; and the Caid was told to return the ram; though I strongly suspect that, from the fear of the bastinado, he divided the spoil amongst our attendants; but as the affair took place before other Moors, it must very soon have reached the Governor's ears, especially as the Doctor refused to administer to the father, alleging as an excuse, that the medicine was all packed up. To this independent manner of behaviour, we owed a great deal of the the respect paid us while we remained in the country.

We now prepared to leave Azamoor and its inhospitable ruler. It was near eight o'clock, however, before we got on our mules, owing to a great altercation which took place between one of our guards, Hamet Sharkee, and our bluff old muleteer. The former having placed a bag of corn for his horse on one of the baggage mules, the old fellow declared it should not remain; the

other that it should. At last the old man threw it out of the pannier, and Hamet, who was a powerful fellow, struggled to replace it, and ended by collaring his antagonist. It is difficult to describe the indignation of the old Hadge, who struggling to disengage himself from the iron grasp of Sharkee, and sputtering with rage, poured upon him such a volley of abuse, that I thought they would have drawn their swords upon each other, when Susèe our Caid ordered Sharkee to quit his hold and told him that he was in the wrong. The old muleteer was no sooner free than he began again, and seizing his own beard, swore by the Prophet, that not even *that*, grey as it was, should prevent him from fighting his antagonist. Order being in a measure restored through the Caid's interference, we left Azamoor at eight o'clock. Poor Sharkee, who was a great favourite with us all, and had been a Caid of a hundred men in the late Sultan's time, whose family he had endeavoured to support in their struggle to regain the throne, and thus lost his command, was very much hurt at being now forced to submit to the orders of Susèe, and lagged behind us at some distance during the two following days.

On leaving the town, a Saint of the most *ragged order* accosted one of our guards, and picking up a bit of cane, he looked up to heaven, and, blessing it, presented it to the soldier, who received it with the greatest reverence, and paid the Saint in return a silver piece. I just overtook the latter, as he was pocketing his gains, and per-

ceiving that he had in his hands a crimson rosary of large polished beads, I asked him, through our interpreter, if he would sell it to me. He replied that he could not do so, as it would be a sin to part with it, it having come from the Holy Shrine. Here the above-mentioned soldier endeavoured to dissuade me from purchasing it, saying that I could get much finer ones at Marocco. I replied with a methodistical face, "that might be, but I particularly wished the rosary, as belonging to a *Saint*." The fellow, who did not know that I had seen his late purchase, and who was alarmed at the idea of a Nazarine possessing a Saint's rosary, assured me that he was not a Saint of any *quality*, and begged me not to take the rosary. I laughed heartily at the fears which made the man deny his patron, and pulling out the real philosopher's stone of Barbary, a dollar, I held it up to the ragged minister of Mahomet, knowing well its talismanic powers; nor was I mistaken; for the first sight of the silver immediately overcame his religious scruples, and he greedily seized the money in return for the beads. They were made of date-stones, of a superior growth to any I have ever seen, and being dyed crimson, and well polished by years of counting in the hands of the owner, they were a very handsome ornament.

The country over which we now passed, bore the same unpleasing appearance as the day before. The heat of the climate began to be much more oppressive; and from the rocky nature of the soil, the vegetation consisted chiefly of the monkey

date. Up to this period we had withstood the climate with great success; but we now began to find riding under so powerful a sun very overcoming. Shortly after we left Azamoor I caught several camelions, which seem to abound in this part of the country. Numbers of snakes' skins were also lying about on the ground, and one of these, which I picked up, must have measured six feet in length. A vast variety of coloured grass-hoppers continued to rise in flights as we passed along the road.

It was late in the evening before we reached our resting place, at a spot called Zowir, an assemblage of dirty huts and mud-built houses, on a situation which once had boasted of a town. Darkness came on before we were encamped, and we had considerable trouble in pitching our tents, from the rocky nature of the soil, which broke all our tent-pegs. By the help, however, of some large stones, to which we fastened the tent cords, we at last succeeded in housing ourselves, and received a visit from a Sheriffe who governed the place, who behaved very kindly to us, and supplied us with all that we needed. We had ridden ten hours this day, without intermission, in the heat of the sun. All felt very much knocked up, and I began to fear that this was but a prelude to the difficulties which we might expect to encounter.

CHAPTER XI.

The Travellers continue their Journey.—Incidents and Occurrences on the Road.

Early on the morning of the 4th of August we were visited by the Sheriffe, who asked us to go and eat some figs in his garden. This fellow reminded me greatly of friar Tuck; tall, athletic, and fitter for arms than sanctity, his eyes glistened with pleasure as he examined with astonishment our superior fire-arms. He led us to his garden, where we found a few ripe green figs, and then we went to see his house, where, instead of palmer's staff or alkoran, he had a number of guns, pistols, and an American rifle, with which he said he now and then amused himself; though if he had said "with which he passed his time," I should think he would have spoken more truly. At seven o'clock we took our leave of the good-humoured Sheriffe, and gave him a small supply of good powder and shot, with which he seemed much pleased. Towards nine o'clock we entered an extensive plain, bounded to the south by a range

of hills, of no great dimensions. In two hours we passed a number of Saints' tombs, near which we found an extensive open space, with wells of water, and large caverns or pits, which are used in Barbary as corn stores. Here a number of roads from all points of the compass, came to a centre. Upon inquiring the reason of this, we were informed that this place was the general rendezvous or fair of the neighbouring lands of the province of Ducalla. This fair is held every Tuesday, and from the extreme richness of the soil of the province, it is the greatest held in the kingdom. The plains of Ducalla are said to grow more corn in a productive season, than all the remainder of the empire. I here shot an owl of diminutive size, measuring about four inches high, and having most beautiful eyes. The plumage is the same as our common brown owl in England, but the head of this grave little gentleman is flatter than that of the owl species generally, and more approaching to the shape of the vulture's head; he has also the power of seeing during the day, and of withstanding the glare of the hottest sun. Numbers of them were to be seen sitting basking in the heat on the old stone walls which are scattered about the market-place. I also caught a curious yellow spider of the tarantula species, its body and legs covered with thick yellow hair. I confined it in a pill-box, and by the time we reached Marocco, the heat of the weather had completely baked it, so as to render it very brittle.*

* See Appendix.

At one o'clock we rested for an hour under a fig-tree, growing by the side of a dry torrent's bed. This stream takes its rise in the above-mentioned hills to the southward, and pursues its course westward; at this time there was not a drop of water in the bed. We soon after leaving this spot, entered the hills before us; they were covered with long grass, and here and there a fig plantation might be discerned. The soil was of a deep red colour, producing a finely coloured flint, of the same tint, and in hue almost as fine as crimson jasper. We here again crossed the torrent-bed, near which were a number of wells and a few date trees. Having watered our animals, we continued our journey in search of a douar for our encampment, and meeting soon after some camel-drivers, they told us that we should find one about an hour's ride off, by leaving the direct path; and after hunting for a long time, we at last arrived at an extensive encampment of Arab tents, on the top of a hill, where the same difficulty with regard to tent-pitching took place as the evening previous. Whilst this operation was going on, I wandered about the douar, and near the door of the Governor's tent, I found his horse fetlocked. It was milk-white, with the most beautiful head that the imagination can figure to itself, and a profusion of white mane of great length and silky softness. As he was already saddled, the Arabs asked me to mount him, which I did immediately. I found his paces niggling, but the graceful carriage of his head, and

the intelligence of his countenance, surpassed any thing I have ever seen.

The douar at which we were now accommodated we found was commanded by a very powerful Caid, who was then absent with a large force, on a visit to the Sultan, and had left in his place his brother, who came immediately to tender us all the civilities in his power. In the evening he drank tea with us, and seemed much pleased at our conviviality. We were making ourselves very comfortable, being delighted to find that we had proceeded on our way so far with uninjured health, when our fat companion,* the state prisoner, came in to consult the Doctor concerning his health, with the most woe-begone countenance that can be imagined. He complained of dreadful gripings in the stomach, and a degree of inflation that made him fear lest he should burst. Dr. Brown immediately inquired into his diet, and he confessed that during the heat of the day, he had eaten two large water-melons, and afterwards had drank proportionably of water of the wells. We all laughed heartily at the dismal countenance of this water-melon glutton, and offered him some brandy, which he said he dared not touch, being a sheriffe. We then explained to him that Mahomet allowed the use of that

* This man was on his route to the court to kiss the dust before the Sultan's feet for his late emancipation from a purgation of sixteen years imprisonment; long confinement had made his complexion so delicate, that he suffered greatly from the heat of the sun.

liquor as a medicine. To this he seemed anxious to agree, and seizing hold of a tumbler nearly full, he swallowed off its contents with all the ease imaginable, but making most dreadful grimaces afterwards, as he smacked his lips with inward delight. The liquor soon began to act on his head, and while the juice of the water-melon seemed oozing out of his inflamed eyes, he kept laying his hand on his fat belly, exclaiming *Bono, tibib, bono.** At last sleepiness began to overcome him, and he reeled out of the tent, to the great amusement of our guards, praying Allah to forgive him for using so *cursed* a liquor as medicine.†

We were disturbed early the next morning, by the cries of all the women and children in the douar, which were so violent that one would have thought that Bedlam had been let loose. I hastily dressed myself, and on going outside of the tent, I found the whole douar turned out to receive and welcome, after their abominable fashion of screaming, the Chief of the province, who had returned from the Sultan. The sight was novel, and, indeed, very pleasing. The women, in groups of five and six, had gathered to shriek, and to long canes had tied their smartest handkerchiefs of every colour, in silk and cotton, which fluttering in the breeze, gave a gaiety to the scene. On the opposite hill was seen descending a troop of about sixty

* Good, Doctor, good!

† This is sufficient proof that Musselmen are aware of the true spirit of Mahomet's prohibition of wine-drinking, though they generally support the argument that brandy is not wine.

horsemen, and in the distance some two hundred more were following, in parties of twenty or thirty at intervals, some on one hill, some on another. The first body soon halted at the foot of the opposite hill, and the straggling parties brought up the rear, with camels and baggage-mules; the whole forming a lively mixture of colour. Dr. Brown and Mr. Murray immediately waited on the Chief, who received them very civilly, and acquainted them that he had orders from the Sultan to detain us four days at his douar, and to entertain us in the kindest manner, his Highness being fearful of our health's suffering from fatigue. Though this was the reason assigned, I almost doubt its reality; for on arriving at Marocco, we found a Spanish doctor in attendance on the Sultan, who no doubt entertained some idea of sending us back, for fear of double fees. These surmises increased our desire to reach Marocco as soon as possible, as we did not greatly relish the idea of a long journey back to Gibraltar without having seen the capital. We therefore begged the Chief of the douar to allow us to continue our journey, as we felt quite equal to the undertaking, and that we would take the responsibility upon ourselves. To this he at last consented; we prepared immediately to break up our encampment; and, after mutual presents, we took leave of our host, and continued our march over a hard stony country of rising ground, abounding in lizards of various descriptions. I killed two of them: the one was of a slate colour, and measured eighteen inches,

covered with polished scales; the other was of an orange colour, with a sky-blue back and head, and measuring eight inches. The former of these was of a sluggish nature; the latter exceedingly active, holding its tail erect as it ran along the ground. The whole road was covered with grass-hoppers of various colours. One species I more particularly observed for its beauty. It was a small brown or chocolate coloured one; the under part of the wings being of a bright pink, which is only observable when it flies.

At twelve o'clock we entered an extensive plain, partially covered with a beautiful thorny shrub, growing to the height of fifteen feet, the leaf of which is of an exceeding bright green. Here we found the travelling very painful to the mules, on account of a quantity of petrifactions and spars, which were strewed over the face of the plain: I picked up several specimens of these, which I afterwards found to be agate.

The sun had greatly increased the heat of the atmosphere, and the dead flat by which we were surrounded for many miles, over which the heated air hung undisturbed by a breath of wind, caused us much pain. Added to which, the stony nature of the soil caused so violent a reflection that our faces were completely pealed with the heat. The guards, who had hitherto used no precaution against the direct rays of the sun, now covered their faces with their turbans, leaving only a space for the eyes. This is a very necessary precaution, which, however, I found myself unable to bear,

for it was only changing from the heat of an oven to that of a vapour bath. It was here that I first felt the ill effects of the sun, which soon after caused me to dismount from my mule, overcome by a sudden sick fainting-fit. I crept under cover of a bush, and hid my head from the darting rays of the fiery sun. Mr. Murray and I had lingered behind the foremost of our party, and having drank our flasks of water, there was not a drop left to moisten my parched tongue, which was as dry as a piece of wood. Luckily, however, our baggage was in the rear, and in a short time, to my infinite delight, I saw the water mule arrive; when Mr. Murray, who had kindly waited behind with me, procured me a draught of comparatively cold water, which acted like the elixir of life upon my parched frame. It is impossible for those who have never been placed in a similar situation to conceive the luxury of a draught of cold water, when the very saliva has taken leave of the mouth. I soon felt my returning vigour, and after frequently repeating the draught, I again proceeded on my journey. At two o'clock we arrived at a walled douar, opposite which was the dry bed of a stream, and near it a well, supplied by a living spring of clear cool water. Here every one dismounted, and almost struggled for the nectar of the desart, huddling round the well like hard drinkers round a punch bowl, swallowing draught after draught, which requires to be repeated five or six times before the thirst is at all abated when the throat is in this

state. We then retired to the shade of a spreading tree, to partake of some refreshments from our wallets, and stretching ourselves at full length, made great havoc upon the water melon. Here we met another party going to Marocco, consisting of a black Sheriffe, attended by four or five of his own colour, travelling on foot; the Sheriffe was the most ludicrous picture of despair I ever saw; he was leaning against the trunk of a tree with his hands drooping on each side of him, his tongue hanging out of his mouth, and the tears which were falling from him (for he was crying like a child,) seemed to have found as ready a vent by his mouth as his eyes. His companions were lying round him, either administering consolation, or offering up prayers for his recovery. We immediately asked the old fellow what was his complaint, when he replied, in a most melancholy tone, that he had eaten of the prickly pear, until he could neither eat nor walk any longer, and that, from the pains he was enduring, he verily believed he should shortly burst. One of our guard advised him to eat some water-melon as a remedy, and handed him a large slice of this highly-prized fruit. I shall never forget the mixture of distress and greediness displayed in the countenance of this *hedge-glutton* as he seized on the proffered fruit, and was preparing, full as he was, to add to his repletion and pains, when the Doctor told him he would inevitably make himself worse, and begged him not to eat it. It was easy to perceive that this advice but ill suited his inclinations, for

he continued to hold the tempting slice in his hand, alternately looking at the Doctor and the fruit, and uttering long moans of despair, more from regret at not being allowed to eat more, than from the pain he was suffering from having already eaten too much; but he was at last prevailed on to relinquish the prize, in lieu of which we gave him a glass of cherry brandy, which soon restored him to ease. By this time our baggage had come up, and we were discussing the propriety of continuing our journey through the intense heat, which was now rendered quite suffocating by a hot desart wind which had lately sprung up, when the case was suddenly decided by the determination of our muleteer to halt, who without further ceremony proceeded to unload the mules, to the great annoyance of the Caid, who had given his advice to the contrary. The latter was, no doubt, in the right, for his animals had suffered great fatigue from this day's journey. Finding that we were not likely to prevail upon the muleteer to proceed on his road, we retired to the interior of the douar, where we pitched our tents, and sought in vain for shelter from the heat of the shirocco wind. Towards evening, however, this curse of the desart greatly subsided, and I lounged along the bed of the river with my gun, and procured a supply of doves for supper. These birds abound here, as well as in most other parts of Barbary, and are very tame.

At six the next morning we left the douar, and after passing along a flattish country for two hours,

we suddenly ascended a height, from the top of which we were unexpectedly gratified by the sight of the Atlas mountains. From the hill on which we stood, the eye-sight, shooting over an extensive plain below, partially covered with a green shrub, was first met by the lower range of the Atlas mountains, crossing the plain from east to west, and finally arrested by the dark blue outline of that range, which well deserves the credit of supporting the heavens to which its lofty head aspires. Then indeed, and not till then, did I feel myself repaid for my arduous journey. As we were admiring this magnificent prospect, an antelope bounded across our road, and disappeared again with great swiftness. No sooner had we descended into the plains below than the heat became intensely severe. At twelve, the usual hour of our rest, Mr. Murray and myself found it so very oppressive, that we halted and laid ourselves down under the shade of a tree, to the great annoyance of our Caid and some of his men, who wished to push on after Dr. Brown, who, regardless of the danger of riding during the great heat of the mid-day sun, had imprudently continued his route, attended only by Hamet Sharkeé, who, poor fellow, paid but too dearly afterwards, for his faithful services this day. Suseè, our Caid, did all that lay in his power to persuade by fair means Mr. Murray and myself to continue our journey, and when he found us deaf to remonstrance, his anxiety for the Doctor's safety induced him to try to work upon our fears, by telling us

he would go on and leave us to be robbed by the inhabitants of the country; to which we replied that we were armed, and did not care for robbers, and that he might go when he pleased. The choleric little fellow was greatly nettled to find himself treated so coolly, and swearing in many Arabic oaths, turned his horse's head round, and moved off: he had not gone twenty paces, however, before he again wheeled about, and with silent half-smothered rage returned to the tree, and remained sitting on his horse, while Mr. Murray and I were reposing ourselves, and laughing at the indignation of the Caid, whose astonishment at being made the subject of ridicule seemed only balanced by our decided manner of thinking and acting for ourselves, without losing our tempers. To this behaviour, from which Mr. Murray and myself never departed, I attribute much of the respect shewn us during our stay in Barbary. The smallest deviation from a haughty and dignified bearing, is apt to lower you in the eyes of these people, while a contrary manner never fails to inspire respect. After having rested ourselves for about three quarters of an hour, we again mounted our mules, attended by Suseè and his men, who kept at a considerable distance, much offended by our late difference. The shirocco wind again commenced, but with greater violence and increased heat, and we were not a little delighted to be able to take refuge from it, in about two hours more, in the interior of a caravansera, a walled enclosure containing a few

covered-in sleeping places. Here we found the Doctor, who had arrived some time before with Hamet Sharkeé. The hot wind increasing, we were forced to creep into the sleeping-rooms, and hide ourselves behind the walls to avoid its scorching effects, from which our faces and hands suffered greatly. The thermometer stood during this evening in the shade at 96½. Our encampment (for we pitched our tent in the interior of this *Casa del Re*, as the Moors termed it,) was situate at the southern extremity of the extensive plain over which we had travelled this day, and which was bounded on the south by the small chain of the Atlas, running towards the north-east, and said to be the same which is seen from Gibraltar, among which is to be found the town of Tetuan. The shirocco wind, as usual, died away in the evening, and we retired to rest, but not without some symptoms of having over-worked ourselves. Dr. Brown complained of pains in the head, and one of our muleteers had dropped from faintness during the heat of the day, but had recovered by being given some water and allowed to ride on one of the baggage-mules. All our animals, indeed, were greatly exhausted, and how could it be otherwise, when we had performed a journey in fifteen days, which is generally performed by the Moors themselves in twenty or twenty-five days; and it will be wondered at by those who hear it, that a man who, like Dr. Brown, possesses pre-eminent abilities, should so greatly err against common-sense as to disregard all the

prudential advice which we had received from the inhabitants of the country, concerning rapidity of travelling, and exposing ourselves to the mid-day sun. In my opinion a traveller should never totally disregard the advice and customs of the people amongst whom he is travelling, however ignorant they may happen to be. Experience, a severe master, must have taught them the best method of combating the evils of their climate. An Englishman, however, is too apt to consider all prudence as effeminate, and all advice as *humbug*. With this head-strong notion he goes forth to travel, and runs his head into any folly, trusting to his own personal exertions to retrieve himself. Thus, whenever it has been my lot to meet Englishmen in foreign countries, I have invariably found them suffering from the bad effects of the climate, and enjoying but few of its advantages. Their houses are badly built, after their own opinionated fashion, and badly adapted to the climate. They wear the same cloathing as if they were in their native country; take the same exercise at all hours as they have been accustomed to; follow the same diet; and keep the same hours; not only avoiding all those customs and habits which experience has shewn necessary, but also abusing and ridiculing them; and why? Because they are not English.*

* "Uso ridiculo, que nace de una preocupacion en favor de nosotros mismos."—*Viage de la Razon. Vide Appendix, B.*

CHAPTER XII.

Arrival at Marocco.—Reception at that Place.

At seven o'clock in the morning of the 7th of August, we started, with more spirit than strength, to complete our journey. At eleven we had passed the small chain of the Atlas; the soil was of a reddish hue, covered with quartz, and perpendicular strata of slate-stone formed the rock of these heights, which are partially covered with shrubs and pasture for sheep. The view that presented itself to us on passing the minor range of the Atlas was truly magnificent. The great city of Marocco lay in the centre of a vast plain, covered with olive and date trees, from whose feathering heads arose many a lofty mosque and minaret. To the right of the city there grew, as it were, suddenly from out the dead flat, a mountain, in the centre of which is a deep indent or valley, resembling the crater of an exhausted volcano. To the east and west the plain was unbounded; but to the south arose before the astonished sight that stupendous

mountain-range the Atlas, seeming to mock the efforts of man to pass it, and dividing the mind of the beholder between the thoughts of his own insignificance, and the sublime grandeur of his Creator.

Having descended into the plain, we entered the most beautiful groves of palm trees, beneath the shade of whose lofty heads, herds of cattle were reposing, or browsing, on smooth lawns of an eternal verdure, nourished by a thousand streams of clear mountain-water, intersecting the ground in all directions. The sleepy sound of the shirocco wind,* as it sighed through the fringed branches of these elegant trees, and the low soft cooing of the amorous dove to the partner of his joy, bestowed on this enchanting scene a bewitching softness, which contrasted finely with the unfinished magnificence of the harsh outline of mountains before us, lying scattered, as if by the Divine wrath, in chaotic confusion.

A well-built bridge of three arches crosses the bed of the mountain river, from which the various streams emanate. At this time the water was rather shallow, but it contains, in the deeper parts, abundance of grey mullet. Here we rested until our baggage came up, sheltering ourselves under the arches from the burning rays of the sun. The bed of this stream is composed of small round pebbles much resembling the *verde antique*, found among the ruins of ancient Rome.†

* This wind may be instantly recognized by a peculiar sighing noise, the effect of its unsteady gusty nature.

† Vide Appendix, C.

Pursuing our route, the scene soon changed, and the road continued to run through extensive gardens of the olive and pomegranate, and was bordered on either side with magazines for corn, excavated in the earth, and lined with hard plaster, like the interior of a gigantic oval jar. At two o'clock we came in sight of the walls of Marocco, around which the plain appears very uneven from the numerous mines from which salt-petre is dug. It is difficult to imagine, and still more so to describe, the scene which presented itself to us upon passing the arched gate of the town, built of red sand-stone, and carved and painted in the Arabesque. The crowds of wild handsome countenances; the muscular forms of the half-naked mountaineers, as they pressed forward with eager curiosity to gaze at the Nazarenes; the astonishment depicted on some countenances; the scorn or indifference on others; the listless apathy of the well-dressed sitters;* and the crafty look of the tawny Arab; were objects that conspired to render the whole a most amusing study. It was with considerable difficulty that the crowd could be kept off; for their curiosity was so great that they risked the severest blows to obtain the pleasure of touching our cloathes, and more particularly our arms, which seemed to excite their utmost cupidity. Half choaked with dust, and parched with a sun that made us wonder how the human frame could endure it, we continued to thread the

* It is the custom of the best-dressed and most respectable classes, to sit cross-legged, doing nothing.

streets, attended by a mob. We passed the execution ground, where we saw three headsmen seated beneath little wigwams, reposing in the heat of the day, like blood hounds tired of inaction, and longing for their prey; and after traversing extensive wastes, covered with ruins, and intersected with mud walls, we arrived at the grand mosque, a fine specimen of the ancient Moorish style,—in form and size nearly resembling the one I have already described at Rabat, and supposed to have been built by the same architect. Here we again entered the habitable part of the town, the houses of which are generally low and small, and the streets so choaked up with an accumulation of annual filth which is never removed, that in many places the floors of the houses are some feet below the street, and the inmates are obliged rather to crawl than walk into what more resembles a burrow than a house. After about four miles journeying through this enormous half-ruined city, we descried the green-tiled* roofs of the royal abode, amidst extensively walled gardens of the dark olive and the orange; and suddenly entering an extensive walled square court-yard, we found ourselves in the precincts of the Sultan's harem. Scattered over the square were numbers of blue-striped bell-tents, beneath whose shade were sleeping or dozing in Moorish apathy, the Sultan's guards, while their patient horses stood fetlocked to a rope around the tents, exposed to the burning rays of the sun. The heat had

* Green tiles are a royal prerogative.

now become so insufferable from the scorching of the shirocco wind, that existence actually became burthensome, and with great pleasure did we at last alight, at four o'clock, under a lofty gateway, or guard-house, supported by pillars and arches, and tenanted by Caids of the troops, eating their couscassou, playing at cards, or counting their beads. Here we stretched ourselves on the earthen floor, and gave loose to our insatiable thirst. It was vain, however, that we tried to quench it by draught after draught of cold water, and slices of water melon; for these had no sooner passed the throat, than the mouth again became as dry as parchment, and the moistless tongue rattled as it essayed to speak. Never shall I forget what I suffered this evening, as we lay stretched on the ground cursing the odious servility of the court, which prevented the ministers from disturbing the Sultan to announce our arrival. The fact was, that we had arrived at an unlucky hour; it being the custom of the Sultan to retire from public business at ten o'clock, and solace himself in the society of his women until the hour of four, no one being allowed to enter the harem during these hours of royal recreation. Thus no one dared approach his Highness to apprise him of our arrival, and preparations not having been made for our reception, no one knew to what house we were to be taken. All affairs, of whatever importance they may be, are at a stand-still, during these hours of royal retirement, during which we continued to drink cold

water and execrate despotism ; and in this manner contrived to pass away five or six of the most painful hours of our lives. At last the long soft tones of the Muczier's voice from the tower of the royal mosque announced the hour of evening prayer, which the Sultan regularly attends when he leaves the women's apartments, and afterwards transacts public business, or walks in his garden.

A favourite black eunuch, Caid Feradgée, a follower of the late Sultan's, now came to us, and expressed his master's welcome, begging us to follow him to a house in a neighbouring garden of the palace. Conceive then our disappointment and rage, after anticipating the pleasure of a comfortable night's rest in a good airy dwelling, when we found ourselves introduced to a summer-house or virandah, built against a wall, and entirely open on one side, without even a screen to protect us from the scorching wind! In front of this was a grass plot, on which we pitched our tent, and at each extremity of the virandah was a small dirty room, resembling a gardener's tool-house, but having neither doors nor windows. In one of these Dr. Brown resolved to pass the night, but Mr. Murray and myself preferred sleeping in the tent. We then bade our interpreter declare our wants, and a succession of servants continued to bring us a profusiou of every thing we demanded. A sheep was killed, and hung up to a neighbouring tree ; chickens were fluttering about with their legs tied ; and as much of vegetables and fruit

lay scattered around as would have given the rot to a herd of cows. During this vegetable display of his Highness's magnificence, Mr. Murray and myself continued to utter in Spanish, which our guards partially understood, our most bitter invectives against the Sultan, for placing us in such a situation, and our determination not to put up with such scandalous treatment. All this we well knew would not fail to reach the Sultan's ears, and so it afterwards proved by our change. Dr. Brown, who complained greatly of head-ache, retired to rest, and Mr. Murray and I sat down to our tea, and talked over our journey. The prospect before us at another time might have pleased us. The summer-house was placed, as I said before, against the wall of an extensive garden, planted with the olive and pomegranate, through which ran two large walks, intersecting each other at right angles from end to end of the garden, flanked on either side by small rills of running water, while the boughs of the picturesque and peaceful olive, intermingling their graceful foliage, formed the most beautiful avenues imaginable. At the end of one of these stood our tent, and in the centre of the walk our guards and a party of soldiers were regaling themselves with the offals of the newly-slaughtered sheep, while a charcoal fire, over which they cooked their meat, shed its red glare upon the expression of their half-savage bearded faces, as they whiled away their watch in singing and playing at cards.

Many, I dare say, were the good things that

passed round, for roars of wild laughter continued to break the stillness of the night. The shirocco had in a measure subsided, and "up rose the yellow moon,"—not with a pale and virgin light, but roseate and inflamed, she rose from a vapoury bank of Eastern Malavia, looking agueish and fevered.

Tempted by the warmth of the night, and the coolness of the running stream at hand, I stole into the water, endeavouring to cool my heated frame before I retired to rest, and disturbed a consultation of deep-mouthed orators, who swam off with as much precipitation as if I had been the crane sent by Jove in answer to their petition. I must confess that this was indulging very imprudently, and I afterwards suffered for it.

CHAPTER XIII.

Residence at Marocco.

The heat of the sun disturbed us at an early hour the next morning from our feverish slumbers, and it would have been difficult to decide who seemed most exhausted by our journey, for all complained of some illness except myself. Though I had passed but a troubled night, I felt no illness on rising. Shortly after our breakfast, the heat of the day increased so suddenly, that the rays of the sun darted through the thin planking of our virandah, making us, like the man in Æsop's fable, cast off our garments one after the other; but this caused us more uneasiness, for the effect of the shirocco wind proved so painful to the naked skin, that we were obliged to resume our cloathing. To remedy this *breath of hell*, we nailed up the walls of our tent against the open side of the virandah, and continued to throw cold water over it, and to sprinkle the floor; but all was in vain; and we at last desisted from endeavours to cool ourselves by

which we only became more heated, and resigning ourselves to our fate, sat cursing the barbarity of the Sultan in not having better provided for our reception, and expressing the bitterest invectives against his Highness for such neglect. All this had its effect, for several Moors from the court calling upon us, heard our complaints, and no doubt bore them back, giving the Sultan a more exalted idea, than he had first entertained, of the rank and condition of his European visitors. Dr. Brown now complained of great heaviness of the head, and found it necessary to let a considerable quantity of blood, which greatly relieved him. During this operation a Jewish Renegade, who had lately arrived from Mogadore, came to see us. This fellow talked Spanish fluently, and had evidently been sent expressly to sound us, and to ascertain our views beyond that of the avowed one of having come for the benefit of the Sultan's health. To this man, then, we explained, how Mr. Murray and myself had attended the Doctor for the pleasure of travelling in a foreign country, and that being *great people* in our own, we felt much hurt at being left at the mercy of the climate in a place in which we should have scorned to house our dogs. I further assured him that I should try to prevail upon the Doctor to return to Gibraltar, and represent in the strongest manner the indignity of the treatment we had experienced. All this I delivered with a haughty and indignant air, and gave the Renegade to understand that he was listening to one who was determined never to part with one iota of his dignity. I then

pointed to the blood which the Doctor had just taken from his arm, and endeavoured to impress upon his mind the extreme danger of our situation, in being left exposed to the sun in this summer-house. He seemed much surprised that we did not like the situation, affording, as it did, the advantages of a fine garden and streams of water, and added that this was the place to which all foreign ambassadors and *great men* were conducted when they arrived at Marocco. He left us soon after this, and promised to make a faithful report of our situation and our wants. Mr. Murray soon complained of pains in the head and fever, and Dr. Brown shortly after took to his bed with a galloping pulse. Poor Hamet Sharkee wore the most dismal but resigned countenance I ever beheld, and it was but too evident that he had suffered under the previous day's journey from the exposure to the heat of the mid-day sun. The two servants were also taken ill, the Genoese in particular, with a violent cholera morbus, which the Doctor declared might prove fatal to him in a few hours unless he were bled. I therefore despatched a soldier for a Jewish woman who was reckoned *cunning* in the art of phlebotomy, and in the meantime I mixed up doses of physic for the whole party, as the Doctor dictated from his bed. Two muleteers now followed the general example. To all these sick people I was forced to attend. The Doctor often begged me not to expose myself so much to the sun ; but what could I do? On every side lay stretched, beneath the

trees, our guards and attendants, suffering for want of aid; an aid which I could not find it in my heart to refuse them, though I well knew the risk I ran in administering to their wants. I shall never forget, however, the face of gratitude of poor Sharkee as he looked his silent thanks when I gave him some salts, and then mixed him a cup of tea to take after them. The poor fellow, who had seen better life, was pleased to be so kindly noticed while in a situation that precluded him from soliciting a favour. His good heart was too full to express what he felt, but the thankful look of his noble countenance well repaid me for the risk I was running in his behalf. I was soon hurried away by a messenger, who came to inform me that another of the guards had been suddenly attacked by the cholera morbus. I repaired to a distant part of the garden, and there found the unhappy man half naked rolling on the ground in the most excruciating pain, and groaning piteously. I immediately ran for some medicine which I made him swallow. The Jewish woman came soon afterwards, and having bled the Genoese servant, which she did by making a gash in his arm that made the man faint with fear from the size of it, I bade her perform the same operation on the soldier. By this timely precaution they both recovered. Mr. Murray's illness seemed to increase rapidly. In the evening the Sultan sent his physician, an old man with a most venerably white beard, (whose knowledge consisted chiefly in the art of burning with hot irons, and giving sentences of the Koran as charms,) to beg a bit of plaster

for a wound of his Majesty's *sublime toe*, and further to ascertain from the Doctor for what purpose the two *great* Caids attending him had come to Marocco, on which he seemed to entertain much jealousy and suspicion. The Doctor told me that he had assured him our intentions were honourable, and our motives mere curiosity, and for the object of being companions to him; but though I ought not to doubt Dr. Brown's best intentions, I much fear that he neglected explaining our situation as I had begged he would do, namely, to say that these officers had come with him as his companions, without whom he could never have himself been tempted to undertake the expedition; that as he came of his own free will, it could not be expected that he would do so without the society of a friend, in a country with whose language and manners he was unacquainted; and that he had accordingly chosen us as being men of the same style of life as himself. This would have effectually put a stop to many future inquiries concerning us, and much suspicion. To this man the Doctor again expressed our desire to be provided with a comfortable house for the benefit of our health, which was suffering greatly from our present exposure to the direful effects of the climate. Late in the evening the Sultan sent to say that a house should be prepared for us the next day. In the mean time Dr. Brown's fever had increased alarmingly; violent vomitings took place; and I felt much concerned at the dreary prospect around. The fatigue of my duties,

as assistant-surgeon, had brought on a slight head-ache and feverish feel, and Mr. Murray and myself retired early to bed.

This morning, (9th August) dawned upon a most sickly crew. The Doctor whose fever had increased, had passed a delirious night; Mr. Murray and myself felt but slightly relieved; and all the rest, except Sharkee, were something easier. At ten o'clock the Renegade came and told us that the Sultan had ordered our escort to be ready to see us to Mogadore. No clap of thunder could have more startled us than such a message at such a time. We exclaimed loudly against so barbarous a proceeding, and were preparing to send a message to the Sultan, when the mistake was cleared up by the appearance of a most quizzical, comical little fellow in European costume, (a Spanish Doctor he proved to be) who threw his queer withered countenance into the form of a pair of nut-crackers, and invariably prescribed phlebotomy for all evils. He had come from Gibraltar by desire of a rich Jew at Mogadore, who had died before he reached that place, and the Sultan hearing of him, had sent to him to desire his attendance upon a Basha in the neighbourhood of Marocco, whence he had just returned. Having cured the Basha, and pocketed his gains, he was preparing to return to Mogadore, and it was for him that the Sultan had ordered the escort to be ready, and our friend the Renegade had mistaken the English Tibib* for the Spanish one. The Sultan,

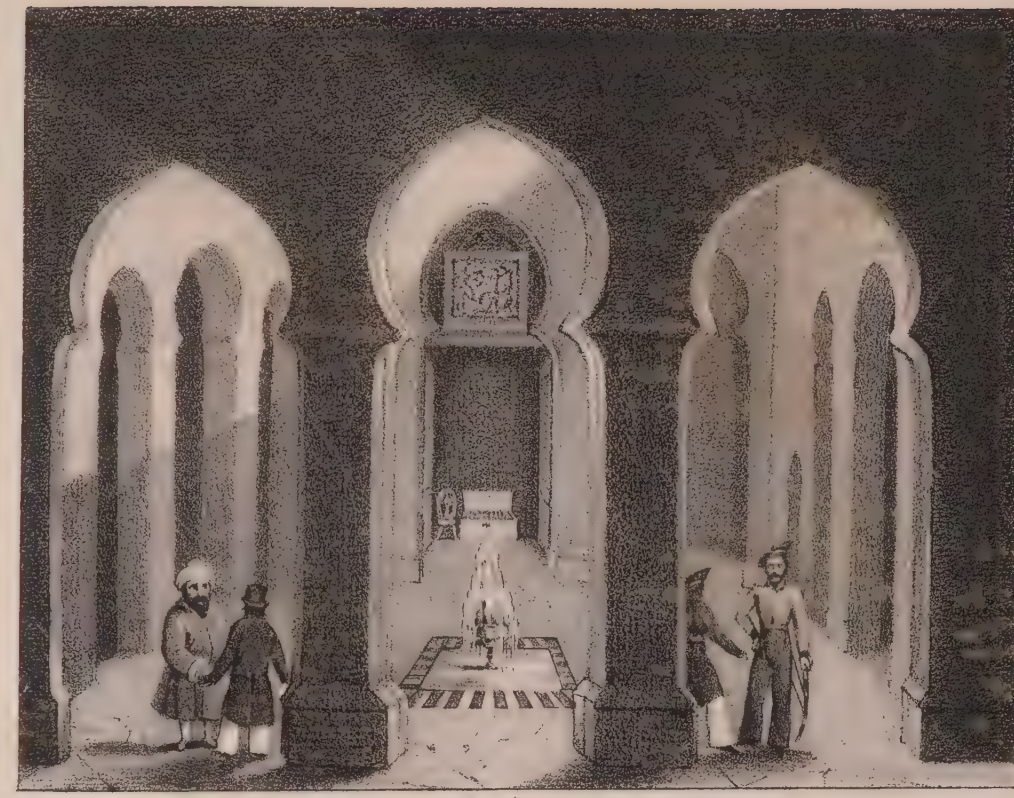
* Tibib, or Doctor.

however, on being informed of the Doctor's illness, had ordered the little Spaniard to remain another day or two, to render us any assistance that we stood in need of; he, therefore, with Dr. Brown's consent, proceeded to exercise upon him his favourite practice, which slightly relieved him. To our great joy the message at last arrived that we were to be taken in the evening to our new lodging. At about six o'clock, after the heat of a burning day had in a measure subsided, the Caid of the household, a tall athletic bustling fellow, arrived at the garden, attended by a host of young servants and mules, to convey us and our baggage to the house prepared for us. Mr. Macnean, whom our interpreter designated *the great* Mr. Macnean, came to see us, attended by a backbiting friend and servant: he told us with great freedom that he was delighted to have the pleasure of seeing us here, and that he had lived many years in London, whither he went with his brother, who was sent from the court of Marocco to that of St. James's as the Sultan's Minister, and he ended by assuring us of his good will towards us, and his desire to serve us by the Sultan, with whom he was, to use his own terms, "all the same Mr. Pitt, all the same Mr Fox."

The Doctor made a violent exertion of the little strength he possessed, and being placed on a mule and Mr. Murray on another, I preferred walking; and thus we left with little regret the abode of frogs and toads, and in ten minutes more found ourselves in the interior of a spacious and

lofty house. It consisted of four superbly-sized rooms, forming a quadrangle, in the middle of which a stone paved court resounded with the soft splash of a spout of water issuing from a marble basin placed in the centre. At the north end of these apartments were kitchens, store-rooms, and baths of all sorts, neatly paved with small coloured tiles. This house formerly belonged to old Muley Absolam, the Blind Prince, of whom Ali Bey talks in such amiable terms.* It stands close to the royal harem, and has a small garden, on the south side, abounding in fruit trees. This delightful change appeared to augur well for the improvement of our health, and we begged the Caid to thank the Sultan, and say that we were satisfied. The Doctor and Mr. Murray retired immediately to bed, and I set about arranging my room, and making myself comfortable against an attack of sickness, for I felt very feverish and heated. Whilst thus employed, a most dignified looking personage, with a grey beard, dressed in the finest haiks of a milky white, came floating into the Doctor's apartment, to whom the united representative of Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox paid the most servile adulation, and announced him as Prince Belgazzi, the Sultan's great friend and minister,—which may be interpreted, the Sultan's Tom-fool and butt. He came loaded with the kindest inquires from the Sultan concerning us, and with offers of the

* Muley's Son was at this time absent on some duty of the Sultan's.



J. Beaucler pinxt. On Stone by Giles

Interior of the Quadrangle in the late Prince Muley Absolam's House in Marocco.

Printed by Engelmann, Graf Lemercier & Co.

unbounded services of his master, whose whole wish it was to treat us as such distinguished guests deserved. All this was said with excessive dignity and decorum, and having finished, he retired amidst the most servile salutations of the Moors present, and the *great* Mr. Macnean, who himself shortly afterwards withdrew, and I prepared to retire to rest. The heat of this day had been nearly equal to that of the preceding one, and again I yielded to the same temptation as on the evening of our arrival, and having undressed, sat myself down in the basin of the fountain, enjoying the coolnes of the water as I threw it about me. I had not, however, been in long, before I suddenly became much cooler, and at intervals, a slight shivering came over me. Alarmed at this sudden change from burning heat to cold, I left the water hastily and retired to my bed, courting in vain that warmth which I had so lately shunned. To this succeeded a hot fit, which first convinced me that I had been attacked with the ague.

The next morning found us all ill, except our Jewish servant. Dr. Brown's fever had increased still further; Mr. Murray and myself were very feverish; and our two servants were nearly incapable of serving. Mr. Macnean came early this morning to ascertain what supplies we stood in need of, having been ordered by the Sultan to see us kindly treated. We then put down on paper the several articles of house-furniture and provisions of which we stood in need. The interpreter introduced to us a Jew named Jacob, a great man amongst his tribe, who had been ordered by the

Sultan to supply us with all we demanded, and to levy the payment on the Jewish community at large. This fellow begged that we would be as merciful on the Jews as possible, as they were very poor; we therefore cut our expenditure down as low as we could, from a feeling of kindness towards these *proverbial cheats;* and the satisfaction we afterwards derived from our humanity, was, to hear that our friend Jacob not only cheated *us* by seizing on his brethren to the full extent of what we had agreed to abate from our original demands, but he cheated the Sultan *too,* who had ordered him to keep an account of what we were supplied with, that he might repay the Jews at a future period; which account, by Jacob's reckoning, increased of course seven-fold. During the course of the morning Caid Feradge, the Sultan's favourite Eunuch, came to us with the kindest inquiries from his royal master concerning us, and begging that we would apply for every thing we stood in need of. This we promised to do. Mr. Murray and I, finding ourselves grow worse, returned to bed with intermitting fevers. The Spanish Doctor coming to see us, immediately recommended his usual practice, to which we both most willingly submitted, and afterwards felt much relieved by the loss of blood. To complete our misfortunes, the Sultan sent us large supplies of ice, which melted untouched before our eyes, like the passing stream of Tantalus. The heat this evening became intolerably suffocating, and night closed upon us by a loud storm of thunder bursting over our heads, but unattended by rain.

CHAPTER XIV.

Residence at Marocco, continued.

As the greater part of our residence in Marocco was passed in sickness, I shall here drop my daily narrative, and endeavour to give a rough sketch of what passed under our observation during the time we remained there. Two days after entering our house, Mr. Murray and myself slightly recovered from our fever, but on the day following I was attacked with a tertian ague in all its horrors, which soon after changed into a quartan, and then to an irregular one. At the end of this time, about eight days, Dr. Brown began to recover, and I was suddenly attacked with the liver complaint, for which he thought it necessary to bleed me and put me under a course of salivation. This reduced me so much that the ague again came on in all its shapes, nor was it possible to keep it off with the ordinary remedy of quinine bark, which I dared not touch. My stomach became so violently irritable as to reject the smallest nourishment, and during nine days at one time I received nothing but lemonade. In this condition I

languished for sixty-three days, the time we remained with the Sultan, forty-three of which I passed in bed. Now and then the ague left me for a few days, and, tempted by the beautiful view of the Atlas, I would crawl to the top of the house to gaze upon its blue snow-clad outline, or hobble with Mr. Murray through our shady garden; but even these gratifications were denied us, for on every occasion of the kind my ague returned.

Mr. Murray after a short time was also severely attacked with the same complaint, and in a few days was reduced to a skeleton: he, however, shook it off for a time, and though he had several attacks afterwards, yet they only recurred at considerable intervals, during which he again picked us his strength, and became stouter than we had ever seen him before.

Dr. Brown, during the last month of our stay at Marocco, suffered most severely from dysentery, and we again became greatly concerned for his life; looking upon his superior abilities as our only staff, we felt doubly interested in his safety; but after a most trying illness, which he bore heroically, he recovered sufficient strength to enable him to leave Marocco. During our residence at the capital, the Doctor went, by the Sultan's desire, as often as he was able, to consult with his Majesty on the state of his health, and that of his son. The evil under which the Sultan labours is piles. The Doctor often begged him to desist from the use of horse-exercise which would render his disease fatal to him; but his

invariable reply was, that he might as well give up his crown as abandon his usual practice of riding every morning among his Caids ;—a custom inseparable from the possession of his authority ; that while other kings shewed themselves to their subjects mounted on a throne, those of Marocco did so on their horses. This disease being far advanced, is likely soon to terminate his life. The Sultan has two sons by his Sultana or Queen, from whom the right of succession proceeds. The number of his women defies all calculation, and is the cause of more expenditure than all the rest of his establishment. Besides numbers of black and white slaves which he purchases, his subjects are continually bringing him their daughters as presents, in hopes, through the medium of their charms, to obtain a share of the royal favour. These women, after a short time, are abandoned for fresh ones, and either sent as presents, or married as wives, to the great men of the kingdom, or they are placed with a comfortable maintenance in one of the royal harems in the different towns of the empire. The Sultan's eldest son is eleven years old, and was much afflicted with what we call the *Scotch-fiddle*, an annoyance that seemed to be very prevalent at court, at least if we may judge from the numerous applications we had for the *precious* ointment.

It was a long time before I became sufficiently recovered to pay my respects to the Sultan. At last an interval occurred from sickness, and in company with the Doctor and Mr. Murray, and attended

by his Majesty's tea-maker, a Caid who grew much attached to us, I repaired to the Sultan's apartments. We were conducted into a spacious garden, surrounded by a very lofty wall. It was well stocked with fruit trees of different sorts, and was watered by streams from the Atlas; the whole having the appearance of a kitchen garden. Our conductor had hardly proceeded two paces when he came to a dead stop,—as you may see an old pointer do when he suddenly catches the scent of his game. Thus our Caid, having bowed himself to the ground, with his hand to his forehead, stood with his head outstretched, his eyes fixed, and his arms extended on either side to prevent us from proceeding, as he hastily exclaimed *Seedna, Seedna!** My eyes followed the direction of his, and at the distance of three hundred yards, I perceived the Sultan walking towards us, who immediately waved his hand as a signal for our approach. We soon found ourselves in his presence, and having bowed with our hats off, we replaced them, and the Jewish interpreter, having taken off his shoes, proceeded to do his office. The Sultan is, from appearance, about forty-two years of age, his figure rather inclined to be corpulent and squat, and his height five feet nine inches. The expression of a naturally good-humoured countenance is much destroyed by a white spot on his left eye, which gives him the appearance of squinting; his beard is short, black, and bushy, and he is the only man in his dominions who

* Our Lord! Our Lord!

grows the hair between his neck and the outer joint of his chin, it being considered dangerous to allow of the too near approach of the razor to the royal throat, for fear of those accidents from which even Sultans are not exempt. He began the conversation by addressing Mr. Murray and myself, hoping that we had recovered our health, and how well aware he was of the power of England, which he looked upon as his dearest ally, and the English as his brethren,—a feeling which had long been cherished by the Moors. I then assured him, in return, how reciprocal was the feeling, and how anxious we were on our part to keep it alive. He then addressed the Doctor concerning his health, and after some fresh civilities concerning his wish to make us comfortable, he observed that I appeared very ill, and he would not therefore detain us further; and having desired the Caid to show us round the garden, he waved his hand, and we bowed and left him. During this time he remained sitting on a red cloth cushion placed on a projecting edge of the garden-wall, built for this purpose. In this manner he receives all missions; no one sits in his presence or is offered refreshments, and yet there is no ostentation or pride in his dress or manners, which are both perfectly simple. At the further end of the garden we ascended a sort of house, which he calls in the European style, because it contains two iron fire-places, and some window frames devoid of glass. From a tiled terrace in front of these windows is a most charming view, overlooking,

as it does, the different court yards of the harem and the city, and affording an uninterrupted view of the entire range of the Atlas mountains, bewitching the plain from east to west with grandeur. The palace is an enormous establishment in all its branches ; vast court-yards, with fountains in the centre ; with store-houses, baths, sleeping apartments, women's apartments, gardens, kitchens, *et cetera*, all comprehended within its lofty walls, which are about sixty feet high, and turreted on the top after the Moorish fashion. These walls, as well as all others at Marocco, are built of mud and pebbles, beaten with rammers between two planks, which form a frame, and then left to dry, or rather bake, by the heat of the sun. The palace stands at the southern extremity of the city, without its walls, and facing the Atlas. The royal gardens are numerous and extensive, but containing little more than fruit trees ; roses and violets being the only two flowers which are prized by the Moors. These are, in their season, said to be very superior in their odour to anything we possess in Europe, and so abundant, that the luxurious make use of them for stuffing cushions and mattrasses.

Upon reaching our house I was again attacked with ague. Three times did I sit down before a large canvass, with a desire of sketching a view of the Atlas range, and each time was I taken with my shivering fit ; the same occurred whenever I attempted to write my journal, so that I was unable to retain much of the conversation and anecdote which occurred during our prolonged residence at the capitol.

Sultan Muley Abrachman appears to deserve the opinion formed of him by his uncle Muley Slieman, or Soliman, who left him, by will, the sole heir to his crown and kingdom, to the prejudice of eighteen sons, because he looked upon him as a sensible man; and so he has proved himself to be, by his wise behaviour in establishing himself on his throne, not by the eastern mode, —the extermination of the late Sultan's family,— but by relying on his people's affections, which he wins by his humanity and his kindness to those very sons to whose prejudice he has mounted the throne. These he keeps near his court, and by this double line of policy and kindness, he prevents sedition, and shews the world that he has not ascended the throne by slaughter, but by the justness of his claim, which is founded on the uncontested will of his late uncle, whose voice, say his followers, was the voice of the Holy Prophet. From the expression of Muley Abrachman's countenance, he seems possessed of much good-nature, and a degree of sly fun or humour, which is seldom found in a man of a bad disposition. Stories are told of his having performed the office of his own executioner, for the pleasure of gratifying his revenge; but these we heard from our Jew interpreter, and therefore gave no credit to them.

The arrangement of the royal hours are as follows. The Sultan rises at day-light, and having said prayers, walks in his garden unattended, giving orders to the workmen around him. At

eight, he mounts his horse, and rides for two or three hours, attended by all his great Caids or Captains, who continue to gallop past him, and discharge their long guns, loaded with blank cartridge, at his royal person, so that his ride is an unceasing Lab el Barode. On returning from this exercise he retires to his women's apartments until four o'clock in the evening, enjoying the bath, and such other *et cæteras* as his harem can offer with all its numbered charms and charmers. At four he goes to the mosque for evening prayers, and afterwards either rides, or transacts business, during the remainder of the evening. The favourite minister at court is Belgazzi, not the Prime Minister, who was at this time at Saffy, but the private friend and butt of his Highness, to whom, even the Premier in Barbary, as well as in other more civilized countries, is obliged at times to buckle. Muley Belgazzi is a man of about thirty-six years of age, and an old follower of the Sultan's; he has succeeded, by a most unqualified good-humour, in gaining the entire confidence of his Sovereign, to whose presence he has unrestrained access, and whose hours of relaxation he diverts, by telling him the scandal of the day, and bearing the brunt of the Sultan's practical jokes, who takes great pleasure in laughing at his good-natured Falstaff.

Belgazzi came often to see us, and was greatly flattered by our kindness to him, in shewing him all our European articles of utility and convenience, a description of which he never failed to make to his indulgent lord. Shortly after our arrival, I

gave him a pound of fine Battle powder, at which he seemed greatly delighted, and proposed loading his gun immediately with a *handful of it*, as is their custom: against the danger of this, however, I warned him, and he ran off to the Sultan, as a boy who has had a present given him, to shew it to his companion. He afterwards told us that Seedna had taken his powder from him for his own use, and then laughed at him. But what delighed him most, were some sketches I made, and more particularly one of a striped rat. I shall never forget his half-frantic joy at discovering me sitting before the drawing which I had just finished, and the dead rat from which I had taken it. Again and again he looked at the rat and the picture, and he appeared at times doubtful whether he were not dreaming, and then burst out into immoderate fits of laughter, and danced about the room with the card in his hand. I also shewed him, from my portfolio, a coloured print of Titian's half-length Venus rising from the sea; he viewed it for some time lost in astonishment and delight, and then begged me to allow him to carry them both away, to shew to a friend of his. This I knew to be no other than the Sultan, and I allowed him to take them, to his infinite joy. He did not re-appear for two days; at the end of that time, however, he returned me the pictures, which bore the marks of much thumbing, and he told me that they had been the delight of the harem, and that the Sultan's ladies begged I would draw them something else.

Belgazzi often came to see me when employed in drawing, and one day he asked me if I would "write his face," as he expressed it. I told him that I could do so if he wished, but he suddenly replied, "Oh! no; if you do, you will take it to England, and say this is Belgazzi." From what motive this shame of being shewn in drawing, arose, I could never find out; but certainly his sensibility on the subject was very great; for he came into our house one day with breathless anxiety, to inquire of me if I had not written out his face, which he begged me to give him. It was in vain that I assured him I had not taken his likeness; for the Sultan, he said, had not only declared that I had done so, but that he had actually seen it. This was, it afterwards proved, one of the Sultan's jokes against poor Belgazzi, whose sensitiveness he had discovered; but I could never after make the poor fellow believe that it was a hoax.

Hadge Cassem, a Caid of great distinction, and tea-maker to his Majesty, was one of the best and most respectable servants of his Highness. His office permitted a very near intercourse with the Sultan, it being the custom of his Highness to see this favourite beverage prepared before him, for fear of *accidents;* and the Hadge, a rough, weather-beaten looking old soldier, of forty years of age, by this means, had frequent opportunities of being more familiar with his master than many greater men. It was he who also performed the duties of lord chamberlain, and

morning and evening he came regularly to conduct the Doctor, whenever his health permitted it, to the presence of the Sultan. From these constant visits we became more intimate with the Hadge than any one else at Marocco, and never had the slightest reason to retract the good opinion we had early formed of this most excellent creature.

Caid Mohamed ben Hassan, one of the great Caids of the kingdom, was a young, handsome, and interesting person. Our acquaintance began with him, by his application to the Doctor concerning an old gun-shot wound, the ball of which had passed through his body. He came often to see us, and while others who did the same, were troublesome, or impertinently civil, Mohamed would sit doubled up against the wall, while the animation of his sharp regular features bespoke his inward pleasure at what he witnessed. One day the Doctor asked him if he wanted any thing: "No," replied Mahomed, "nothing more than the pleasure of seeing you make physic." The simplicity and extreme elegance of this high-minded young soldier, struck me at first sight, and I used frequently to give him small parcels of coarse powder to fire at the Lab el Barode, and such other little presents as I had taken with me. These so won upon his heart, that he afterwards became our most intimate and amiable friend.

Caid Ali was the head gardener, and used to set on the water for our fountain. This old man, who had reached an age past sixty, was nearly

black, and under an uncouth exterior, possessed one of the warmest hearts I ever knew. I shall never forget the simple gratitude of this poor creature for our kindness to him. I observed one day that he always went bare-headed, and asked him the reason. The poor man, who had but one coarse bournouse of cotton to cover his person, owned that he was not rich enough to buy a cap. It so happened that I had a remarkably fine Tunizian scull-cap in my trunk, which I gave to him, telling him that though he was poor, I looked upon him as my friend. The old fellow could hardly believe his senses at witnessing what he considered such disinterested kindness from a Christian, and stooping down to my bed, where I was confined with ague, he caught my hand and kissed it with the deepest veneration ; from which time, Ali never allowed a day to pass without coming to see me, and always ended his inquiries concerning my health, by saying that he should pray to Alla at night for my recovery. It was in this situation one day, that the voice of Ali at my bed-side, aroused me from a gloomy reverie into which I had fallen. I turned round, and beheld the poor fellow on his knees by my side, with an offering of some fresh eggs, which he told me was all he had to present me in return for my little present. I was more pleased with the good man's eggs than with any present I have ever received, and he seemed as much delighted at my readily accepting his simple offering.

I know of no pleasure so great as is afforded

to the traveller in barbarous countries, by those simple strokes of nature, which draw, as it were, the pure fire of the mind from the rough and flinty nature of unpolished man.

The Spanish Doctor left us a few days after we were settled in our new abode, and proceeded to Mogadore; and Dr. Brown, having sufficiently recovered from his fever to be able to attend to the complaints which came before him, received a message from the Sultan, saying that he would take the liberty of sending such of his friends and soldiers as required medical advice; and that, to prevent other intrusion, he had placed a guard at our door who had orders to obey our directions. From this time forward the Doctor's room was one continued levee day after day, and many a droll scene passed before us. Of the variety of complaints that came before the notice of the Doctor, there were none of any consequence, which differed from those of Europe. The itch was very prevalent, and syphilis and gonorrhœa were also current among the soldiery; the former being known under the name of the French disease. Cases of the most terrible elephantiasis continually meet the eye in this country; but none ever solicited the Doctor's advice. A very common complaint amongst the women who sought advice, was the want of offspring; the knowledge of obtaining which by means of medicine, they feel convinced is in the power of the Europeans to reveal to them. The same degree of science, they believe, is capable of foretelling the sex of offspring

yet unborn,* a question that all the newly-married girls were most anxious to have answered according to their hopes. Barrenness is a reproach amongst the Moors, and the blame attaches invariably to the woman; and thence has arisen, I imagine, the notion among this people, that a woman may remain pregnant for an unlimited time,—an opinion favoured and fostered, no doubt, by all those who wish to avoid a reproach that may divorce them. Jacob, our victualler, one day brought his wife to us to complain of the delay of his long-expected heir, of which his wife had been pregnant *five* years. The wife, a pretty, modest, sleek-looking young woman, who, from her appearance, bore any thing but the marks of sterility, declared her belief that she had long been pregnant, and seemed greatly disappointed that such was not the case. We, however, consoled her, by saying, that from appearances, she might yet live in hopes, and that if they were not realized, she must blame Jacob. This amused the Moors who were present amazingly, and many a joke and laugh passed round at the expense of Jacob, who carried off his wife, more contented with her than when he had arrived.

Many, however, were the applications made to the Doctor for supplies of cantharides and such like stimulants, which seemed the great end for which many came to see us; for their visits seldom

* These wild speculations have birth from the idea entertained by the Moors, that the art of healing is a species of necromancy, of which all Europeans are in a degree possessed.

ended without hinting at this real object of their desire. Nothing can be conceived more disgusting, than the degree of loathsome sensuality that forms the most striking feature of the Moorish character. I have constantly seen old men, of seventy years of age, begging on their knees, that the Doctor would bestow on them that vigour, which their numbered years refused. I remember one old fellow, in particular, whose teeth were dropping from his mouth, intreating with all the earnestness of a youthful lover, that the Doctor would renovate him, to taste once more the joy of love, with a young black girl of twelve years old, whom the Sultan had lately given him ; and when told that such an attempt would, in all probability, extinguish the little of life he still possessed; he eagerly exclaimed, " then give me the medicine, and I will die content the moment after."

Much surprise was expressed by the Moors that Dr. Brown was too high-principled to subscribe to these vicious excesses. The frequent applications made to him, and the astonishment expressed at the Doctor's invariably refusing to comply with their requests, caused explanations which tend to convince me, that *all* who have officiated in his capacity, in that country, have not been *equally* scrupulous. Amongst those who came daily to visit us, was the chief executioner, a short-bodied, long-armed, herculean fellow, who talked with as much pleasure of taking off a head, as a connoisseur in carving would do of his skill in cutting up a joint. He wore a prodi-

giously long and heavy sword, with which he professed generally to be able to sever the head from the body at one stroke; which he effected by first pricking the culprit in the back, causing him to throw his head backwards at the moment the stroke from behind meets the neck.

CHAPTER XV.

Residence at Marocco, continued.

About a fortnight after our arrival at Muley Absolam's house, the Renegade, David Levantee, whom I have before mentioned, having returned from Mogadore, came to visit us, telling us how great a friend he was to Mr. Wiltshire, the British Vice-consul at that place, and how fond he was of all Europeans; ending by saying, that though he wore the turban, he was still a Jew at heart, and really hated the Mahometans. There was something so sudden in this disclosure of the fellow's principles, that I much doubt, as I did then, whether he was not sent by the Sultan to sound our inclinations towards the Moors; and we were therefore doubly guarded in our expressions. He told us, *en confidence*, that great suspicion had been entertained of the real object of two such great Caids as we were, accompanying the Doctor; the more so, from the coincidence of two men of war arriving off Mogadore at the moment that we were sick in our beds at Marocco; that one of these vessels had fired a gun, and then they

both hawled off and stood to sea. This of course was argued into a signal to us, and the alarm was rapidly spread over Mogadore, that the English were coming to take that place; in consequence of which, a courier had been despatched to the Sultan, who immediately ordered the Governor of Mogadore, to put the place in a state of defence with all possible despatch, which was complied with; and the Moors were in arms for two nights, lying by their guns. All this had passed without our knowledge, and was, no doubt, kept a secret from us by the Sultan. It was at this time that his Highness required some medicine from the Doctor, who sent him a number of calomel pills; but, suspicion having found its way into the royal breast, he had no intention that a pill should find its way to his stomach, without first ascertaining the effects. He therefore called Belgazzi and some of his women, and made them all swallow a pill, in his presence, while he stood laughing at the ludicrous faces of the patients. As none died under the medicine, and as the two vessels did not again appear off the coast, his confidence in us seemed to be quite established, and from that time forward we were treated with unreserved kindness. Poor Belgazzi came to see us the day after; we laughed most heartily at his countenance, as he described the ludicrious scene which the Sultan's fondness for a joke had in a measure promoted.

The Sultan being taken one day with the ague, sent for the Doctor, and being questioned as to his late mode of life, he told Dr. Brown that he had, a

few nights past, been to witness a grand Lab el Barode in a neighbouring province, and that, not thinking it worth while for a night to carry with him his tent,* "he had slept under the moon," a habit he had been much accustomed to in his youth, but which of late years he had not practised. The Doctor begged him, in future, to sleep under a roof, and prescribed quinine pills. This excellent remedy soon drove away the ague, and his Highness was so delighted at being so easily cured, that he ordered a rejoicing to take place throughout the palace. All the soldiers received additional pay; and Mr. Macnean was ordered by the Sultan to prepare for us, in one of the royal gardens, a great feast, to which he came early this morning to invite us. Dr. Brown and Mr. Murray attended, but I was too ill to leave the house. By Mr. Murray's description, however, I did not lose much. The feast, which the Sultan *gave* at the *expense* of Mr. Macnean, was a sort of scramble for badly dressed meats, served up in a summer-house. The Interpreter was seized with the ague during his dinner, and Mr. Murray caught it also, and suffered severely two days after. The evening closed with a general intoxication, from the strength of the Jew's liquor, which the Moors insisted upon his producing, treating him at the same time in the most insolent manner. During dinner, the

* The Sultan's Tent is of very large dimensions, as may be supposed by having forty Tent Pitchers appointed to attend it. It is low, but divided into many compartments, and made of camel's hair.

Governor of Marocco, a man of about sixty, came into the garden, and in the course of conversation, he begged the Doctor to recommend him a restorative to vigour. It so happened that Mr. Macnean had prepared a large plum-pudding for his English guests, and the Doctor seeing the Governor's prediliction for the dish, immediately recommended it as the desired recipe. The Governor no sooner heard this than he fell to, and devoured the pudding, to the great delight of Mr. Murray and the Doctor. We afterwards asked how the plum-pudding had succeeded; he replied, that it was an excellent recipe:—such is the effect of imagination.

Hearing one evening that Seedna was coming home from hunting, Mr. Murray and myself, ill as we were, crawled to the great square, near our house, through which his Highness passes to enter the Palace. The evening was fine, and the air so beautifully clear, that the Atlas mountains, over whose rugged surface, a dark purple tint was turning to a blueish grey, seemed almost within our grasp, the intervening plain being hid by the high wall of the square, which was bedecked with the striped tents and many-coloured Caftans of the household troops. Loud shouts of *Alla il Alla*, accompanied by irregular discharges of fire arms, announced the near approach of his Majesty. At this moment a party of horsemen suddenly darted through the eastern gateway of the square, with the speed of arrows, discharging their pieces as they reached the further end, and

reining up their steeds; to these succeeded party after party, until the enclosed space before us became a crowded scene of wild and noisy animation. The Sultan now made his appearance mounted on a jet black soft-paced horse, and surrounded by all his great Caids. Before him, was carried his awning of pink silk, supported by four poles, borne by pedestrians, and surrounded by a number of silken flags, embroidered with gold and silver. The rear was brought up by the *Canaille* of the *Chasse*; and dogs and beaters of all sorts and sizes lagged wearily around the mules, which were laden with the spoils of the day. The Sultan, who wore nothing to distinguish him from his officers but a haik of fleecy whiteness, rode quietly across the square towards the harem, while troops of horsemen continued to pass and repass him, shouting and firing their long guns at his person. He suddenly made a halt upon seeing Mr. Murray and myself in our uniform at a distance, and gracefully reining up his horse, appeared to be giving some directions to his Caids. It was soon evident that he was preparing to give us a sample of his horsemanship; for one of his attendants now rode up to him, and presented him his gun; a party of five or six Caids then formed on his right and left, and away they dashed at full speed, amidst the shouts of the multitude. This was repeated twice, and we could perceive, even from the distance at which we stood, that the Sultan well deserved the praise bestowed upon him by his people, as the best horseman in the country.

Hadge Kassem and Mahomed ben Hassan came to see us in the evening. The former seemed much delighted at our praise of the Sultan's horsemanship, and the latter, to whom we had given the name of the slashing Caid, from his gay *galliard* manner, came in raptures to tell me that the powder I had given him, had caused universal delight; for in firing off his piece with the Sultan, a ring of smoke, which had been formed by the discharge of his gun, had continued for a long time to be seen in the air. We laughed at the poor fellow's simplicity, and explained to him how he might produce a recurrence of the fact by greasing the muzzle of the gun, and he was not a little delighted on learning so great a mystery. Whenever these Caids came in of an evening, we always made a practice of asking them to drink tea with us,—a beverage of which the Moors are doatingly fond. Hadge Cassem, who was the Sultan's tea-maker, used constantly to officiate for us after his own fashion, which consisted in the insertion of a few leaves of balm; he then *washed*, as he called it, the tea, by pouring on it a little hot water, and instantly drawing it off again, filling up the tea-pot with water, and throwing in quantities of sugar. This forms a most delightful beverage, but generally too sweet for our palates. The Moors look upon tea as we do on wine, drinking it out of small coffee-cups, at frequent intervals; and so high a value do they set upon this article of luxury, that the poorest Moor will spend all he is possessed of, to procure the very best green tea,

(black not being there in use) and the finest white sugar that is imported from England, rather than use a second quality, at less expense. Mr. Murray's *bonhomie* and agreeable qualities for society, added to my best endeavours to please, and the Doctor's to instruct, so won upon the Moors, that hardly a day passed but some of the court came to sit with us. On these occasions the conversation which seemed most to delight them, was that which turned upon the fair sex; a subject which, most men feeling alike on it, is the more apt to create good-fellowship. Often, however, we mutually exchanged accounts of our separate countries and customs, and though it was evident that they did not believe all we said concerning England's power and wealth, they did not conceal from us how anxious they were to be our friends. Hadge Cassem, who was in a manner the ear of his master, put questions to us concerning our King and country, and with great gravity told us one day, that his master believed that the English Sultan was now considering the propriety of making his subjects turn Mahometans, and that England, which they now considered as their ally, would then be one and the same kingdom as Marocco. Against the wealth of individuals, the Hadge grounded his doubt by asking, how it was that our Sultan did not cut off their heads to gain their purses; and upon being told that it was beyond the power of our King to harm the poorest subject, he stared with astonishment, and it was evident that this piece of infor-

mation did not give him a very exalted idea of our Sovereign, for he declared he had rather serve a *despotic* Sultan than such a one as ours. Such is the effect of education ; he that is bred in slavery is as happy in his lot as he that boasts of freedom, and the Mahometan, over whose head hangs by a single thread the sword of despotism, thinks no more of the danger than the sheep does of the butcher's knife which has just slaughtered one of the flock. The terrific accounts which we gave of our naval power, seemed to impress them with a great idea of our consequence ; but what convinced them most of our science, was the number of European articles with which we travelled : our arms, canteens, surgical instruments, and fifty other little articles of convenience and luxury, which exhibited a variety of invention and ingenuity of which they had no idea. Belgazzi came into my room one day, when I was in bed, and observing that the noise he made in entering had disturbed me, he came to my bed-side with evident concern, and stooping down, said, through the interpreter, that I must forgive him ; that he was convinced he must often appear to me very rude, for he knew that he was so much my inferior that he felt his own ignorance ; while he could not but observe how superior in every thing we Christians were to the Moors. The good-hearted man said this with such a simple, earnest manner, and looked so ashamed of his own ignorance, that I felt quite grieved for his situation, while I could not but feel pleased at the ingenuousness of the address.

The heat of the weather continued to rage for about two months with almost unabated fury. For the first month, the thermometer stood during the greater part of the day, at 92 ; it afterwards became more irregular, and calculating it, at the average of our stay at Marocco, it was at 82. During the whole of this time, we were visited by continual thunder storms at the close of the day, which, towards the end of August, turned often to heavy showers, which slightly cooled the atmosphere. The snow on the Atlas range, where it has been said to remain throughout the year, entirely disappeared for about a week. This, I understood from the Moors, had not been the case for twenty years previous; by which they supposed, that for that period of time, they had not been visited with so severe a summer as the present one. From twelve to three in the day, the heat became often so oppressive, that the very birds were unable to bear it, taking refuge in the coolest places they could find, with their wings drooping on the ground with relaxation, and their mouths wide open from the difficulty of respiration.

It was during the hottest days of our sufferings, that we learnt the unhappy tidings of poor Hamet Sharkee's death. There was a warmth of feeling and a high-bred manner in this man, that won upon us, and drew him to our hearts with that feeling with which we assemble around the cheerly blaze of a hospitable hearth, and draw our chairs still nearer to its kindly influence, courting its warmest rays. The cheerfulness of his

disposition, the nobleness of his countenance,—his songs and his jokes,—had all been subjects of interest and amusement to us, and served doubly to augment the regret that so good a man, and so amiable a companion, should have fallen a victim to his fidelity in our service.

We were told, that ever since his first illness, he had continued gradually to decline, until he was advised to consult a famous Saint in the neighbourhood of Marocco; that upon returning thence he had fallen from his horse, overcome by the heat of the sun, and being conveyed to his house, he expired the day following. As he had never sent to us, nor asked the Doctor's advice, we had great reason to suspect, that his companions, who had ever shewn themselves exceedingly jealous of our kindness to him, had persuaded the poor fellow, in those superstituous moments which often but too strongly influence a man's better judgment in the hour of sickness, that his illness had been occasioned by his too great fondness of unbelievers; and with that view, the unhappy man forsook our good advice for that of the above-mentioned Saint, who, no doubt brought, as most Saints do at such an hour, more regret to the dying man, than consolation.

Towards the latter end of September, and the beginning of October, frequent showers announced the approach of the rainy season, and the thermometer fell suddenly in two days 8 degrees, causing us to put on warm cloathing.

The Moors themselves seem to suffer greatly

from the heat and insalubriety of the climate of Marocco. The blacks, however, appear perfectly regardless of the burning rays of the mid-day sun, which shine unheeded by the bare-headed negro, while the white man rather drags on life than enjoys it. The Sultan's standing army,* independant of the *Adouais* (his body guard, of about seven hundred men) does not, we were informed, exceed five or six thousand men; of these the principal part are black troops, and generally employed in the southern districts of the kingdom, where the increased heat of the sun overcomes the white men. This army, for want of better occupation, and for the purpose of being kept together, is continually employed against some of the southern black tribes, lying towards Tombuctoo, who, knowing little of warfare, are easily hunted down by their rapacious neighbours, who deprive them of the rich gold ornaments which decorate their ears and noses, and while the young men are sent as slaves to Marocco, and other parts of the kingdom, the girls, from ten to twenty years of age, feel no great reluctance in exchanging their liberty, for the softer and more indolent life they afterwards lead in the harems of the white Moors.

Of the prowess of his Highness's army I fear little can be said, as may be inferred from the following account, given by two Spanish Renegades, who came to solicit the Doctor's medical aid.

* As every Maroquene subject is at any time liable to be called out at the Sultan's pleasure, the expense of a large standing army is avoided.

One of these was a tall fellow, his Highness's chief engineer, over whom the united powers of ague and fear exercised so absolute a control, that he was in a continual shiver. The other was a sturdy looking fellow enough, whose looks belied his heart. He had obtained, as he told us, the exalted post of chief Bombardier, and had been sent with his companions to the black army, beyond the Alps, with a *park* of artillery under his command, consisting of two field pieces which had been presented to the Sultan by the English. They said that they had set out in full confidence of bringing into subordination, by means of these two powerful engines of war, a rebellious tract of mountainous country, which owned no Sultan, and set at defiance his Majesty's laws. But sad indeed had been the reverse of their hopes and fortunes; for as they were one night quietly sleeping in their tents, they were suddenly disturbed, by the impertinent and ill-timed intrusion of twenty-eight ill-shaven ugly-looking *sansculottes* fellows, who, rushing into their tents, took the most unwarrantable liberties with the lives of his Highness's subjects. In fact, the alarm spreading over the encampment, the whole army, amounting to five thousand men, became panic-struck, and with all expedition took the shortest road home, leaving forty-eight dead upon the field, and the greater part of their baggage and tents. The chief Engineer fairly owned, that, since that night, when, awakened by the uproar, he beheld a grim looking mountaineer on the point of spitting him

with a rusty bayonet on the end of his long gun, he had never ceased trembling; that he and his friend slipped dexterously under the tent, and took to their heels, leaving behind them Seedna's *park* of artillery, and came with the first intelligence of the rout to Marocco. These men assured us that they had become musselmen from necessity, having, as many others had done, escaped from Ceuta's prisons, and having no other choice to follow. Renegades are despised and hated by the Moors, and, in general, are little to be trusted: strangers therefore, travelling in Mahometan countries, should be particularly careful to avoid all intercourse with apostates.

The greatest annoyance we experienced at Marocco from vermin, was from the rats. Those who have not been placed in a similar situation, nor ever read the interesting account of Dick Whittington and his Cat, can form no idea of the grievance under which *we* suffered, as well as the black King of the Moors, of whom we read in Mr. Newbury's edition of Dick's adventures. That King, however, was more fortunate than we, for he found in Dick's Cat a relief from this annoyance; but we, alas! tried in vain to procure one, being invariably told that they, as well as the dogs, had fallen victims to the hunger of those who were perishing from the last winter's famine.

On first taking possession of our house, the number of rats exceeded all belief, and from their boldness, it was evident that they looked upon us as intruders. The probability of Dick's history

need hardly be impeached. The lights were no sooner extinguished of an evening, than the whole house was alive with these vermin. They upset the cups, jugs, and basons, by their prodigious strength and weight, and often set rolling a large camp-kettle which contained the remnants of our dinner. But not satisfied with the kitchen, in which they kicked up a continual riot, they came by dozens into our bed-rooms, in spite of all the precautions we used to keep them out; and, finding that they did not hesitate running over my bed, which was laid upon the floor, I fixed up a large mosquito curtain heavily laden round the lower part with musket-balls, hoping by these means to exclude these unwelcome visitors; but all was in vain, for they took the utmost pains to creep under it, and I killed three of them at different times, by striking them with my fist. Long sickness had rendered me very weak, and I was attacked by a nervousness which caused me to start and tremble at the slightest noise. It was in this state, when enjoying the rarity of a quiet doze, that I would suddenly spring up at the feel of a huge rat crossing my face, and find, to my annoyance, that the very means I had adopted to prevent its entrance, now debarred its exit, while with feeble efforts I continued to strike at the affrighted animal with my fist, as it dashed from side to side, unable to escape. Those who have a dislike to this offensive vermin will readily conceive what I must have suffered from the nervous state I was in, and from the loss of my rest; of which my con-

tinual apprehension of the presence of these animals deprived me. Our Italian servant, whose illness we much feared at one time had deprived him of his reason, was still more persecuted by these noxious animals, of which, at any time, he was greatly afraid. The poor fellow would go creeping about the house in a high fever, with no other cloathing than his shirt, with a candle in one hand and a large stake in the other, in search of his enemies. In spite of the wretchedness of his emaciated figure, and his bewildered looks, as he stole about the rooms at midnight, muttering to himself, I could never refrain from laughing, when in answer to "*Que volete a quest' hora Antonio?*" he would reply, with a wild look, and a shrug of the shoulders, "*eh! eh! i ratti, signior, i ratti*".

At last it became necessary for our general quiet, to declare an exterminating war against the whole tribe, and accordingly the household assembled, with swords, staves, and wax candles, and by these repeated ferretings, which caused us much merriment, many were destroyed, and more frightened into better behaviour.*

During our abode in Muley Absolem's house, which was in good repair, we only killed two scorpions, and a third stung one of our black guards at the garden gate. The fright of the black was so great that he was proceeding to cut away the affected part from his leg with a large dull-edged

* In most parts of the kingdom, tame ferrets are kept for the purpose of killing the rats, which I have no doubt are more efficacious than cats, many of which latter will not destroy those animals.

knife, when the Doctor prevented him, and applied a more simple remedy.

These reptiles were, we were told, very abundant in the city, where the houses are in a ruinous state. Mosquitos do not seem to abound at Marocco, which is the more extraordinary, as damp, herbaceous, well-wooded soils, are said to be the birth-places of this tormenting insect.

Our supply of provisions, which, as I said before, was made through the Jew Jacob, consisted of bread, meat, vegetables, tea and sugar. The bread at Marocco, which is made into a sort of large muffin-shape, is, though light and wholesome, not so good as in most other parts of the kingdom. The Sultan used frequently to send us bread and fresh butter from his own table. The former, which was made in his harem, surpassed any thing of the kind I have ever eaten in any country, but might have been objected to by many, on account of a favourite custom among the Moors—the insertion of carraway-seeds into their bread, which, from habit, I became fond of. He also frequently sent us a sort of gruel, made of fine corn or millet, and milk, savoured with bits of sour cheese and herbs, which formed one of the most palatable articles of luxury that can be imagined.* These were, besides their own merits as eatables, of still greater honour to us, it

* I often begged our Italian cook to learn the art of making this very agreeable, and apparently nutritious, mixture; but the bare idea of having any thing from *Questi Genti Barbari*, as he called the Moors, was sufficient to deter our Genoese from complying with my desire.

being considered that the greatest favour the Sultan can confer, is to send bread and butter from his own table to a visitor. By great economy, and a little salt, we contrived to make these valuable presents of butter last us until the next supply; but latterly, to our surprise, they failed all together. This will be afterwards explained. The mutton which we had supplied to us was of a small mountain breed, without much fat, but surpassing in sweetness of flavour even our own South Down or Welch mutton. The beef is said to be also very fine, but we seldom were in a condition to partake of a bit of old England, and therefore I cannot say what were its merits.

Every morning and evening we had a few quarts of fresh milk from the palace, an article of great scarcity in the hot weather at Marocco. Baubee was the name of the old Caid who brought it,* and I may safely add his name to the other amiable characters I have before mentioned as the Sultan's attendants. He had charge of the dairy, and having for several days neglected bringing us milk, we acquainted the Sultan of this cessation, who immediately inquired into the reason of it, and being told that the old Caid had been taken ill, he sent him to see the Doctor, who gave him some medicine, which cured him so rapidly, that when he came next day with our milk, he was

* All the Sultan's household servants, however low, seem to possess rank. In Mahometan courts, the meaner the employment, the greater is the chance of familiarity of the servant with his master.

more like one mad than in his senses ; for, setting down his little pail of milk, he jumped about the yard, exclaiming *Bono, tibib ! Bono, tibib !* at the same time pinching himself all over, to assure us how perfectly he was cured. The gratitude of this old man was so great, that from that time forward he came with the greatest punctuality with our daily supply, and he never failed announcing his approach by the same exclamation, even before he entered the quadrangle, nor ceased until he again left it, seeming to think that no praise was too great for so miraculous a cure.

Besides our daily provisions, the Sultan continually sent us quantities of fruit and ice, or rather congealed snow, gathered from the Atlas mountains. Of the fruit of Marocco little can be said, except, indeed, I include under that head the water-melon, which grows to a prodigious size, and is the favourite of the garden in this country.

In our own garden we had several sorts of fruit, but none which seemed to come to any perfection; which I attribute, in a measure, to the daily custom of flooding the whole with water, which, hastening the growth of the tree, seldom produces fruit of any flavour. The peaches, of which there was a very large crop, exhibited the most curious case of internal disease even in fruit. Nothing can be conceived more beautifully fair, rosy, and full than they appeared ; but upon opening the fruit, the centre was invariably found to be quite rotten, without any apparent communicating blemish from the exterior.

Shortly before our departure from Marocco, there arrived a caravan of Sheriffes to a great amount, from the southern provinces of the kingdom. These men, who all have a claim, from their rank or pretended alliance to the Holy Prophet's family, to the favour of the Sultan, are too numerous to be easily exterminated; and as they find it their interest to remain united, they are consequently a most dangerous enemy to offend, and often very difficult to conciliate; upon this occasion, they had assembled to witness the approaching ceremony of the circumcision of the Sultan's youngest son, and we were told that in return for the *honour* of their attendance, the Sultan was obliged to disburse large sums of money amongst them. The number of Sheriffes in this country, who all unite the two advantages of rank and sanctity, is the great stumbling-block of the Sultan, who is obliged to humour the caprices, and comply with the demands of this licentious part of his people.

Our Italian cook, who in the evening when his work was over, would settle himself with his pipe by the side of Abenseloom, the son of a ladder, and ,between whiffs, indulge in those clever little quips upon his friend's nation, which the Italian knows well how to manage, exclaimed upon the above occasion, *Eh, eh, Abenseloom, me páre que tutti i Mori son parenti del Re.* The observation was not very wide of the truth.

CHAPTER XVI.

Preparations for departing from Marocco.—Presents from the Sultan.—Valedictory Interview with his Highness.—General Leave-taking.—Departure from Marocco.—Journey from thence to Mogadore.

Towards the beginning of October, the weather began sensibly to alter, and with it our healths slightly improved; that is, the Doctor's and my own, the rest of the party being tolerably strong. The Moors assured us that the rainy season would very shortly set in, and it became necessary that we should decide upon the course we intended to take, whether to remain, as was the Sultan's desire, and run the risk of the approaching damp weather, or take our leave of his Highness, and proceed to Mogadore, as the nearest port from which we could take shipping for Gibraltar; to travel by land to Tangiers in our state of health, being impossible. Much as we wished to see more of this kingdom, we were nevertheless obliged to listen to Dr. Brown's warning against remaining longer at Marocco, which, it was his opinion, would shortly prevent even the possibility of our moving either one way or the other. We therefore, with much

regret, at last determined upon quitting Marocco immediately for Mogadore, where the salubriety of the sea air, we hoped, would in a short time recruit our strength. Having communicated our intentions to the Sultan, he readily acquiesced in the plan, though he said it had been his wish that we should have staid much longer with him. Orders were then issued for the preparing of mules, horses, and guards, for our conveyance and escort. Long illness, and a gradual decay of strength, had almost made me abandon all hope of ever again reaching the rock of Gibraltar; but having slightly recovered about this time, hope seemed to instil into me a vigour that I was not aware of, and I exerted myself to the utmost to prepare for our journey. Dr. Brown was at this time suffering most severely, but the same feeling caused in him exertions that outdid my own, for never could he be even dissuaded from making his accustomary visits to the Sultan, and receiving those of the Moors who came for medical relief.

Having arranged every thing for our departure, we signified to the Sultan our wish to take leave of him on the following day. He returned us for answer, by a favourite minister, Mouctar, a remarkably handsome man, with whom we had not till then become acquainted, that he would receive our visit early the next morning, and that he had sent us the following presents: to the Doctor he gave a horse, of no very great appearance as to abilities, besides bullocks and sheep to the amount of about five hundred dollars. The

horse was brought that day, but the rest was to be levied by the Basha of Tangiers, and placed in the Doctor's hands, when he chose to present that Basha with the Sultan's order, which was given to him for that purpose. With the horse, arrived two mules for Mr. Murray and myself, which caused us much amusement, though we did not hesitate receiving them from Mouctar with all due respect, as it was well meant on the part of the Sultan. Mr. Murray and myself cast lots for our choice, and the best, fell into my hands; it was a small chesnut-coloured mule, of the most beautiful shape that can be imagined, possessing much strength and speed. The other was a black shaggy-coated creature, which would have disgraced a gipsey's panniers. After the usual number of civil speeches on both sides, concerning our departure, and the magnificence of the Sultan's bounty, Mouctar drew the Doctor aside, and begged of him to bestow upon him a few bottles of spirits; the Doctor smiled at the insignificance of the minister's desire, and promised him all the spirits we had left.

Muley Belgazzi came in shortly after, to congratulate us upon our favour in the eyes of royalty, and ended by saying, that if we had any little thing to give away, that he hoped we would not forget our friend Muley Belgazzi, to whom the smallest thing would be acceptable. We laughed heartily at the school-boy cupidity of our good natured companion, and gave him, as well as all the others, some little present, which seemed

greatly to please him. Hamet Ben Hassen came in the evening to see me, and I begged of him to purchase for me a white bournouse or cloak, having neglected to bring my own with me; he said that he would do his utmost to procure me one agreeable to my choice, and he set off accordingly in search of one.

Early the next morning, we repaired to the palace, attended as usual by Hadge Cassem, and found his Highness seated on the same place as on the former occasion. He received us very graciously, talked a long while in the most grateful manner of the Doctor's skill, saying that he considered him as his Doctor,* and hoped, therefore, he would come again to see him when he required it. He then observed, that I still looked very ill, and that as it had been our particular desire to leave Marocco, he could not refuse our request, when it was one that concerned our health, but adding, that had we enjoyed our strength, it had been his wish to take us a progress through his dominions, which he was shortly going to make, and have shewn us all that the country afforded in the way of amusement, of which we had as yet had none, on account of our long illness; he then begged to know if we were satisfied with our presents, and the preparations which had been made for our journey. I told him that we were perfectly satisfied, and that it would be my study to acquaint my government, how exceedingly kindly we had

* Dr. Brown was afterwards given a Diploma by the Sultan, which permitted him the privilege of practising his profession throughout the dominions.

been treated by himself, and all his people, and that I hoped no Moor, who came on a visit to our court, would ever have reason to complain of a want of similar treatment on our part. He then wished us a good journey, and waved us adieu, and having walked round the garden, and plucked what fruit we desired, for our journey, we went home.

I must confess, that the idea of the tour, which the Sultan had spoken of, (wretchedly ill and weak as I was) caused me much regret at being forced to leave Marocco. To relinquish the advantage of travelling all over the kingdom, as the Sultan's guest, was hard indeed; but alas, what enjoyment has man without health!—I soon had reason to know; for at two o'clock I found myself again shivering, with my old friend the ague. This appeared to augur ill indeed, on the eve, as we were, of a six days' journey, which we had solemnly agreed amongst us, that nothing should defer. This arrangement had become necessary, as we found that one was continually taken ill as another recovered; and as it had become a matter of life and death whether we could reach Mogadore before the rainy season would set in, which would have been fatal to us, we at last agreed that no consideration of friendship or feeling for one person, was to prevent the safety of the many, by deferring the day appointed, and to this hard condition it was my fate to submit.

Late in the evening, as I lay under the restless influence of my hot fit, Hamet Ben Hassen came running to see me, with the bournouse I wished

in his hand. I asked him why he was so breathless; the poor fellow was in despair at finding me again ill, and told me that he had suffered much anxiety for fear I should think he had not kept his word about the bournouse, for which he had been searching all day in the town, and having at last procured it, had come with all haste to shew me how anxious he was to serve a friend who had always been so kind to him. I then told him I was going to take my leave of him, and that he must allow me to make him a few presents, and also some for his pretty young wife at Fez. The sight of these trifles seemed greatly to affect this noble-minded young man, for as I tendered them to him, he gently refused them, and turning away his head, he hid his handsome face in his hands, and for a time seemed overcome with shame ; at last, he broke silence, and turning to the interpreter, as he sat on my bed, he said, " tell him that Hamet is ashamed to look at his friend, because he feels unable to equal him in his kindness," and from this feeling, he had refused the presents which I again pressed him to take, saying that there was no true friendship where there was a wish to nullify the obligation conferred, by an equal obligation. With a melancholy look, he placed the things I had given him in his haik, and taking off his turban with his right hand, which he raised above his head, while his left hand held mine, he looked up to heaven, and having uttered a short and earnest prayer to Alla, to protect me through life, and grant me many years to live in happiness, he

replaced his turban, and bowing gracefully down, he kissed my hand with ardour, and shot out of the apartment. The soil which suits the seeds of friendship, is that of the uncultivated mind; no weed of interest is there to check the growth of that beautiful plant; and the simple virtue of the tented Arab, shines as pre-eminent as the rose amongst the briers.

We all rose early on the following morning. I was much weakened by my late attack, and felt but little inclined to commence an arduous journey; however I dressed myself with all alacrity, and we all put the best face on our affairs that we could, and though I have seldom seen a more sickly company starting on a journey, I never saw a more cheerful one. All our old friends now came to take an affectionate leave of us, and amongst them our poor friend Ali, the old gardener, who had put on a clean white bournouse for the occasion. I had promised him my mosquito curtain to make him turbans with, which I took down and gave him, besides some other little articles of inconsiderable value. Many of our friends were sad at our departure, but none so sad as old Ali. I was sitting like a Moor against the wall, and anxiously watching the progress of the packing, when Ali, to whom I had already given the curtain, came up to me with a face that evidently was struggling between his feelings as a friend and his pride as a man, for not a word had he spoken since he entered the house. He paused for a moment as if endeavouring to collect firmness

enough to bid me adieu, and kneeling down on one knee, his right hand grasped mine, as his left threw back the hood from his uncovered head, and looking up to heaven with tears starting from his eyes, he muttered an inward prayer to Alla, and pressing my hand with fervour to his lips, turned hastily round, and stalked away, without once turning his head, or uttering a word.

The mules being now prepared, we again shook hands with all who had assembled to witness our departure, and mounting our mules, turned our backs with little regret upon the abode of sickness. The day was oppressively hot, and it was a long time before we lost sight of the mosques of Marocco. On leaving the town, we stopped some time at an immense reservoir of water, finely built of stone, and supplied by a stream from the Atlas mountains. Here we expected to meet some prisoners, who were to be placed under the protection of our guards, for the purpose of being taken to Mogadore; but they not arriving, we went slowly on, crossing, every now and then, conduits of water, which intersect the whole plain between the town and the mountains. Nothing can give a grander idea of the size and populousness of Marocco in former times, than these subterraneous aqueducts, which must have cost an infinity of labour, and which, for the purpose, I suppose, of conveying the water from the mountains unexposed to the heat and evaporation of the sun, are about twenty feet below the surface of the plain. The method taken to form

these, is by digging a series of holes, at intervals of thirty feet, in the desired line of conduit, and then under-mining the intervening space from hole to hole.

The prisoners not coming up, the soldiers who were with us declared they could not proceed without them any further, the Caid of the party being behind with them; we therefore again halted under some stray palm-trees, and endeavoured in vain to screen ourselves from the ardent rays of the mid-day sun, which so inflamed my liver, that I experienced the most lively attacks of pain over my side, back, and shoulders. Stirred up with pain and indignation, at such treatment of men already half-dead, I declared no consideration would induce me to wait for the prisoners, and after some disquisition I persuaded the party to follow my example, by mounting our mules and pursuing our course towards Mogadore. We had hardly ridden a mile, when the mules on which we were mounted, suddenly became most unruly; sometimes they would stop short with their ears thrown forward, necks at full stretch, and eyes starting out of their heads. Others would kick and strike the ground violently with their fore feet, as if at some object of fear; in short all seemed panic-struck. In a few minutes half our baggage was kicked off the mules' backs, whilst the ungovernable animals set off in various directions, pursued by the enraged muleteers. It was in vain I tried to account for such behaviour, and looked in vain for some small fly or insect

which might have been the cause of such apparent madness. This general disorder continued for about half an mile, during which, at intervals, and at particular places, my mule would stop suddenly, and as I said before, set his ears forward and strike the ground with his fore-feet. I afterwards spoke of this circumstance to a person at Mogadore, who assured me that a similar incident had occurred with him, and that he had narrowly escaped being thrown by his mule; that the Moors had acquainted him that it arose from the scent left on the track of a hyæna, of which animal the mules learn early to have an instinctive fear; and that tying a piece of the skin of that ferocious little animal to the back of the saddle, had been often adopted as a means of urging forward a stubborn mule, which imagines that its enemy is close behind it, and flies from it with precipitation.

The evening now began to close upon us, as we pursued our way, over a dead flat country, covered with low sun-burnt shrubs. The cause of our mule's alarm soon after explained itself, for an animal much resembling a fox, but twice as large, crept cautiously from a hole by the road-side, and on seeing me, shot with the rapidity of an arrow to some neighbouring bushes, where it paused for a few seconds to observe me. I was on the point of cocking my pistol, when, seeing me move, it vanished in an instant. At first, from the obscurity of the evening, I imagined this animal to be a fox, but afterwards, hearing of the

above explanation of our mules' behaviour, I was decided that it must have been the very hyæna whose track we had crossed. In the course of the evening we passed the bed of a considerable torrent, but now only occupied by a small stream of very clear mountain water, giving nourishment to that most elegant plant, the oleander, which grows in such profusion in all parts of Barbary, that in plains of great extent, the serpentine course of the river may be traced for miles, by the rosy garlands which skirt their banks on either side. The Caid of our guard not having yet arrived with the above-mentioned prisoners, and having in his hands the directions concerning the route we were to take, we were much at a loss to ascertain where we should find a douar. In vain did our guards disperse over the country, to the right and left, in hopes of seeing the welcome fires of some Arab tent, but none could be observed in any direction. We were told that the country towards which we were going, was in a very unsettled state, and that, in consequence, few douars were to be met with on the road; seeing, therefore, no prospect of reaching any habitation, and night having already set in, we resolved to pitch our tent by the side of a small stream that crossed the plain. Our Caid, an old copper-coloured soldier, mounted on a milk-white horse, of beautiful shape, arrived soon after we had dismounted, attended by four more guards, and the three state-prisoners, heavily ironed. He was in great despair at finding us in our present situation, and vented his rage in long and stormy abuse upon the other guards, for not

halting at a douar which we had passed about sunset, and at which it had been the Sultan's desire we should have rested. To go back would have been only making bad worse, so far behind had we left the douar, and to stay was nearly as bad, for it being the custom in the country to trust to these douars for the ordinary supplies of food and fodder, no other provision for the animals is ever made, which now exhibited the most impatient marks of hunger, having travelled all day without once touching food. Every motion of a muleteer through the whole night caused the whole string to rise, and utter those sounds of intelligence, by which the horse can communicate his wants to his master, and which, amongst animals accustomed to travel together, is taken up from one to another. Thus through the night we were disturbed by a continual noise, which was the more disagreeable, from the knowledge of the privation from which these creatures suffered. Before we retired to rest, our old Caid, who was a fine hearty old blade, of great distinction amongst those of his rank, came in to see us, and brought us some fruit. He told us that the three prisoners who were in his charge were to be taken to Mogadore, and there confined in prison for treasonable conduct. Never did I see three such horribly squalid bad-featured men. One, in particular, who had committed a murder, seemed the most hardened of wretches. They were placed before the door of the Caid's tent, and slept in their rags upon the bare ground, with iron collars round their necks, and a strong connecting chain.

CHAPTER XVII.

Journey from Marocco to Mogadore, continued.

Having passed a tolerable night from the freshness of the air, which had materially altered even in this short distance from Marocco, we rose early from our beds to the apparently great satisfaction of our mules, who seemed perfectly conscious that by continuing their journey they would arrive the sooner at a douar; and it was astonishing to witness the strength and activity with which these useful animals continued their journey until two o'clock in the day, many of them having three hundred-weight on their backs, without having tasted food for thirty hours. The country into which we now entered assumed a more pleasing appearance, being prettily wooded with a species of thorn, and bearing the marks of recent crops of corn, whenever an open space seemed to offer itself for cultivation; but still no signs of habitation were to be seen. Numbers of the red-legged partridge were feeding amongst the stubble.

I was here much surprised to see how different

are the habits, in this part of the country, of that little thieving bird the sparrow, to those in other parts of the world. Here we found the trees in some places so crowded with the nests of these birds, as to prevent the possibility of even seeing through them. The nest being made of fine long grass, many of the trees literally more resembled hay-stacks, than trees choaked with nests. There were no sparrows to be seen at this place at the present time, by which I imagine that this cunning little bird had chosen this situation for its spring abode on account of its vicinity to a corn country, and that when harvest and nesting time are over, it again repairs to the abodes of man, which, in this country having neither chimneys nor roofs fit for building in, are vacated during the breeding season by this little cheerful companion of man.*

At twelve o'clock we began to enter a different style of country. Leaving the dead flat plain which continued to the north west, we struck off to the left, and gradually ascended some heights that bear all the marks of a recent diluvian progress. The plain over which we had lately been passing, consisted of a soil like that of hardened mire almost without a stone. To our left, the Atlas grand chain of mountains, stretching to the south westward, sent forth from its base a low ridge of table hills of an extraordinary appearance; being generally flat on the top, and though often separated from one another by openings, for-

* It is a common saying among the blacks in the West Indies, that wherever you find a white man, you will find a sparrow.

med as by the rush of retiring waters. They are all of precisely the same height, while their abrupt and broken sides, covered with petrifactions and flint, in a slightly chafed state, plainly evince the force of some sudden revolution of water. The idea that immediately possessed me, was, that I was riding at the bottom of a dried-up sea. To our right the chain of the small Atlas continued to bound the plain to the northward. We now entered a valley amongst the above mentioned Table hills, in the centre of which rose a most remarkable height of so finely outlined a shape, that ignorant travellers have had the folly to ascribe the formation of it to the Portuguese, who no doubt profited by the situation when residing in the country, as one that entirely commands and overlooks this pass to Mogadore. This natural redoubt is of a conical form, but having a flat head, the surface of which is supported as if by art with huge equalaterally formed rocks, and the finely sloping sides are strewed with huge fragments of this stone, which seem detached from above, and theatening momentary descent. If we may imagine that the adjacent country has been thus curiously shaped by a sudden retiring of the waters of the ocean, the singular form of this beautiful hill is easily accounted for by its standing in the centre of a valley closed to the south-west by heights, which, checking the current from the north-east, forced the body of water to return by the same entrance, after making the round of the valley and forming a sort of whirlpool, of which

this hill seems to have stood in the centre. In many parts we passed over large beds of small broken field-spar and flint, having strong marks of chafing, but not so smoothed or rounded into pebbles as to authorize the supposition that they had been long exposed to the irritation of water. I have particularly mentioned these facts, as tending to support the ingenious supposition of Ali Bey, concerning this part of the country. The prospect around us now became very agreeable. Large walled enclosures or douars were seen on every side, while small patches of rich verdure intersected by streams of clear water, and tenanted by cows, sheep, and goats, gave notice of approaching plenty. If such a sight was gratifying to our eyes, how much more so must it have been to those of our almost exhausted animals, who redoubled their loitering pace, in anxious anticipation of the refreshing food which nature had strewn around in such profusion that it seemed as if all the richness of the adjacent lands had been here concentrated. Our guards now formed line in our front and raising their long guns so as to bring them in a perpendicular direction, with the butt resting on the thigh, they thus advanced slowly and in silence, until met by the Chief of the douar before us, who having welcomed us, we rode into a spacious walled square and pitched our tents. It was here that I missed my watch and a valuable snuff-box which I had placed under my bed the previous night, and in rising I had forgotten them. I immediately made inquiry of our Jewish servant, who, having

opened my bed, found in it the former, but the snuff-box was no where to be seen. I offered a a reward to any one who would bring it to me; giving out that I believed I had just dropped it. This, I was in hopes, would tempt any one who had stolen it to restore it to me. A search was then commenced by all present, but no box was brought me.*

As we entered the douar, a Jew crept up to the old Caid of our escort, and, kissing the edge of his haik, bade him welcome, and offered to supply him with all necessary provisions for the Christians, of whom he hoped, no doubt, to make no little profit.

The old Moor turned round to him, and receiving his flattery with the nonchalant air of one accustomed to such prostrations, bade him (without altering his countenance) go quickly, and bring fowls, eggs, milk, butter, bread, and fruit. Away the Jew flew, after a fresh batch of compliments to the Caid, and presently returned with all things needful. We then prepared our tent for the night, and having rambled to the outside of the douar, to

* Some time after my return to England, I received this very box from Gibraltar, by the means of my friend Mr. Murray, who, gaining intelligence from our Genoese cook that he had seen our *son of a ladder* sporting my box amongst his Jewish friends; immediately proceeded from the main guard, where he was on duty, and, having secured the Jew, searched his lodging, and there discovered the box hid with great care in an old trunk. Unluckily, the theft having been committed out of our territories, Mr. Murray was not able to punish the thief, by any other means than that of sending him away from Gibraltar, and luckily for the delinquent I did not discover the theft in Barbary, where five hundred strokes of the bastinado would have been thought a merciful release from being put to death.

enjoy the beautiful prospect around us, we returned to dinner, of which I partook with better appetite than I had experienced for some time; though I was suffering much pain from the effects of my liver. While sitting in our tent, I watched the process of an old Arab woman making butter; which is done by swinging the milk backwards and forwards in an untanned goat-skin with the hair inside. This is hung up like a little boat, with a string at each end, tied to the heads of two sticks fixed in the ground, two feet apart. I cannot say that this antediluvian manner of churning improves the taste of the butter; not to say any thing of its resemblance in its appearance to wall plaster, being full of hair. Our Jew interpreter came to us while we were at dinner, to inform us that the food of which we were partaking, had been robbed, as he termed it, from the Jews of the douar, for the Caid had positively refused paying the fellow who had so anxiously besought the honor of providing us. I told the interpreter that I begged he would bring us no more messages of the kind; that we were here as the Sultan's guests, and therefore did not choose to interest ourselves concerning the manner in which his Highness thought proper to supply our wants; that the Caid doubtless had his orders concerning these things, and that to open our purses to indemnify the Jew, would not only be establishing a dangerous precedent, but equivalent to insulting his Highness and the Caid of our escort.

Before we retired to rest Mr. Murray and my-

self paid our Caid a visit, and took our tea with us to his tent. He seemed much pleased with our affability, and offered us in return some of his coucassou. He told us that he had been an old follower of Muley Slieman or Soliman, the late Sultan, of whom he spoke in very high terms. He was a fine, dignified, gentle-mannered old man; an excellent specimen of that thorough-bred manner in which the Moors so far excel other nations.

Early on the following morning we arose to pursue our journey; but while we were at breakfast a disturbance took place near our tent that caused much uproar. The Jew, it appeared, who had supplied us on the previous day with provisions, had again applied, in less submissive terms, to the old Caid, for payment of the money due for these articles. At first the discussion commenced in friendly expostulation on the one side, and civil denial on the other; it then arose to recrimination on one side, with a positive refusal, and a stern "be off Jewish dog," on the other. This would have been hint sufficient to any one but a Jew, who only when his money is concerned will risk his head. Stung, therefore, with indignation and grief at his losses, he at last outstepped the bounds of discretion, and fairly stormed at the Caid. Like a sleeping lion, which has suddenly been aroused by the heedlessness of a timid stag, our Caid, who seemed before unwilling to allow his gall to get the better of his general placidity of temper, now sprung at the Jew, as some hot

expression of the Hebrew's fired the magazine of his wrath. The explosion was as furious as sudden, for in an instant the Caid had collared the Jew with the vigour of a youth, and the next moment found his victim stretched on the ground, with his face downwards, and while two soldiers held him in this position, eight others were quickly ranged on either side, with all the sticks that could be procured for the occasion, and a regular tattoo commenced upon the unhappy Jew, on whom they laid their blows with as little compunction and as much merriment as if they had been beating a carpet. The old Caid, whose wrath was boiling over, vented it still further by catching a stick from a muleteer, and, running round the circle of soldiers, laid it on *their* heads and shoulders to make them more active in their duty. The affrighted Hebrew being very thickly clad in long cloth robes, got no more than did him good; but he roared most lustily, begging for God's sake that they would let him go with his life, and he would not say another word. They then ceased, and the Jew, quickly gathering up his clothes around him, ran off with all expedition, without daring to utter a syllable, or even to look behind him.

Roars of laughter attended the affrighted Jew in his exit from the court-yard, and I must say that notwithstanding the unpleasant predicament of the unhappy man, I could not forbear laughing at the whole scene, which was certainly a most ludicrous one. So common are these occurrences that

the performance lasted but a few seconds, from the expertness of the actors, who had supplied themselves with sticks even before the Jew was well on the ground, which plainly evinced their readiness in playing their accustomed parts. The old Caid, too, the violence of whose temper had spent itself in a moment, now re-assumed his equanimity, and with his accustomed serenity and softness of manners, he invited us to mount our mules and proceed onwards.

We had not quitted the douar more than a quarter of an hour, when we passed the bed of a mountain torrent, running from the south-east, and having at this time a considerable stream of clear water, which bounded over the rocky bed until made to branch off in various directions by conduits for the nourishment of the surrounding farms. Having crossed this stream, we gradually ascended a higher country, presenting nothing but limestone rocks and petrifactions, which were strewed over the ground in great abundance and variety. The depth of soil appeared to be very slight, for scarcely any vegetable production of a foot high was to be seen in any direction for many miles. The vicinity of the valley we had left abounded in game. The red-legged partridge was more numerous and tamer here than I have seen it elsewhere, and flocks of grouse rose frequently by the road side as we continued to ascend the heights before us. I was too ill to alight from my mule to go in quest of game, and my mule too unquiet to allow of my taking a good aim from his

back; but as I always rode with my double-barrelled gun loaded with shot and ball, in case of accidents, I succeeded in killing one of these grouse from my mule's back. It was about the size of an English partridge, of a plumage something browner, having black feathers under the wing on that half of it nearest the body; the other half to the tip of the wing, also on the under part, being quite white. The wings were pointed at the tips, and the flight of the bird resembled that of a pigeon. The legs were feathered to the ground, and it stood upon three small toes like those of the English grouse. Those who partook of this bird pronounced it to be of a most delicious flavour. I also killed a small species of the stone curlew, of which numbers were to be seen running along the road.

The country over which we were now journeying became too barren to offer the smallest shelter from the burning rays of the sun, which were ardently reflected from a white lime-stone stratum of a most curious form, exactly resembling the ruined foundation of walls or houses, caused by lines of perpendicular strata running at right angles with each other. At first I could not but persuade myself that we were passing over the site of some old town, but upon recollecting that it is not the custom to build with stone in this country, and finding that the same appearance seemed to continue, I called Mr. Murray's attention to this unusual form of stratum, and, from the great extent of surrounding country that bore the same

appearance, he concurred with me in deciding upon it as the effect of nature. I have since been told by some, that such a stratum does not exist in the annals of mineralogy; nor do I pretend to be sufficiently versed in that science to dispute the point scientifically; but for the truth of what I and Mr. Murray saw and examined attentively, I can justly vouch, and I leave the point to be settled by those whose business it is to deny all they hear, until they discover the cause of the contrary. While passing over these stony heights we met some pedestrian travellers of ragged fortunes. One of these, in passing us, addressed one of the prisoners and walked on; the old Caid, however, had no sooner heard that he had done so, than he despatched three of our escort after the fellow, who soon came up with him, and, with the adroitness of men accustomed to such scenes, secured him in a moment by a loop at the end of a rope carried for such purposes, which they tightened sufficiently round his neck to give him no indistinct idea of strangulation. The poor fellow, who was dreadfully alarmed, forced a sort of laugh or grin into his countenance, already half-dead with fear and suffocation, and begged earnestly for mercy as his savage leader, quickening the pace of of his horse, kept twitching the rope to excite by the unhappy man's grimaces the merriment of his comrades. Having inquired into the reason of the culprit's detention, the old Caid assured us that the neighbouring country was inhabited by a people much disaffected to the present Sultan,

which made it necessary that every precaution should be taken against surprise ; that one of our prisoners belonged to this district, and having been addressed by a stranger, it bore all the appearance of improper communication with some neighbouring horde, which might pour down upon us in the night in numbers superior to our own. I could not but applaud the quick-sighted carefulness of our old Caid, but begged he would release the poor fellow in question, if he thought he could do so without danger. The man, seeing Mr. Murray and myself anxious about him, pressed up to us as near as his rope allowed him, and, kissing the tails of our animals, guggled forth his entreaties for our intercession. The gentleman-like old Caid, who never allowed an opportunity to pass without paying us that attention which he considered due to the Sultan's guests, immediately told the man that he should pardon him on account of our intercession, and that to us therefore he owed his life. On finding the halter loosened from his neck the man became frantic with joy, and, leaping into the air in a variety of gestures, he alternately laughed and cried, and kissing our feet and the tails of our mules, he literally screamed his invocations to Alla for our blessing, as also that of the old Caid, whose countenance having re-assumed its usual placidity, exhibited no more emotion indicative of a participation in the joy, than it had in the late agony, of the released prisoner. The Arab was turning to depart on his way, when the two soldiers who had

caught and led him begged to be remunerated for their trouble. It was in vain he declared that he possessed nothing; the soldiers insisted upon seeing the inside of his leathern scrip, where his worldly substance, amounting to a few silver bits, was made to pay at least half-toll.

We made no mid-day halt, but continued travelling as fast as we were able, in hopes of reaching a douar before night-fall. Towards the evening, the country improved; thousands of trees of a beautiful thorn, growing to the height of thirty feet, were interspersed at distances, and the soil bore a most abundant crop of long-dried grass, amongst which herds of goats were here and there seen quietly browsing. The landscape altogether much resembled that style of park scenery which is generally peculiar to England. We passed hundreds of walled douars, but all untenanted, and many much dilapidated. The country, too, around them, bore the marks of fire, which seemed lately to have wasted the neighbouring heights. I was told that this had been done for the manuring of the soil, but upon passing some olive plantations completely burnt up, and from the number of uninhabited walled douars, I was inclined to compare these appearances with the morning's account of the unsettled state of the country, and to lay the charge of these spoliations to the Sultan's troops. At six o'clock we came to a valley, through which ran creeping over the stones a small stream of excellent water. Abundance of water cresses and new grass im-

peded its progress on the more level parts, and seemed to invite to refreshment the parched mouths of our weary animals, which had suffered greatly from the stony paths over which we had this day travelled. The old muleteer, who, like all of his calling, had learned to sympathize with the stomachs of his mules, besides imbibing a little of their stubborn nature, here declared he must rest for the night, nor could all the entreaties of the Doctor and the soldiers urge him from his determination. Uncomfortable as was the situation, with a small marsh near it, and no douar, I felt still not a little pleased to find our day's toil at an end; for the heat of the sun and the fatigue of travelling over rough roads had so overcome me, that I could with difficulty keep my saddle.

It was agreed that if we remained here this night, it would be necessary to start at three o'clock the next morning, to enable us to reach Mogadore on the evening of the following day. We therefore hastened to pitch our tent, and having received a supply of straw from an Arab farmer, who came down from the neighbouring hill to offer us his assistance, we ate our suppers, and closing our tents to keep out the damp of the evening, retired to our beds to dream of agues, amidst a concert of bull-frogs. I passed a wretched night, in the middle of which I awoke, very sick and cold, and at half-past two, I was obliged to make a most dreadful exertion to dress myself, and prepare for departure, which nothing but our agreement at Marocco could have induced me to effect: a cup

of hot coffee, however, enabled me to seat myself on my mule, closely wrapt up in my thick woollen bournouse, which hardly sufficed to protect me from the cold raw air of the morning. We now proceeded at a brisk pace, and by this means saved ourselves some hours' riding in the hot sun. As morning dawned we entered a beautiful forest of the argan tree, which grows to the height of about fifty-feet in a conical form, expanding considerably in the lower branches. It bears a fruit much resembling an olive, the stone of which contains two, and sometimes three, kernels of a most greasy nature, whence is extracted an oil greatly preferred by the natives to that of the olive, particularly for culinary purposes. To the olfactory nerves of Europeans, the strong smell of this oil is very unpleasant, in consequence of the nut being baked to open it. This wood is a natural plantation where no art is made use of in its improvement, nor any other trouble taken than that of picking the rich crops which nature abundantly supplies. The exterior of the fruit is very palatable to the herds of goats which live upon it, though to the taste it is as bitter as gall. The Moors say that the argan will not grow in latitudes north of Saffee; but from the rocky heights on which it grows, I am inclined to think that the experiment would belie the assertion. The rocky beds through which this tree seems to delight in forcing its tortuous roots, is of a soft brown sand-stone. I brought a great quantity of these nuts away with me from Mogadore, and presented

a sufficient number of them to Sir George Don to plant over the rock of Gibraltar, to which place, if they succeed in growing, they will form a great ornament, as well as being of much service in the way of shade. We continued passing through this beautiful wood until one o'clock, when, after surmounting height after height, in anxious expectation of seeing Mogadore, we at last reached the summit of our wishes, and the long hoped-for sight burst suddenly on our view. Never shall I forget with what intense delight I gazed upon the expanse of the dark blue ocean, which now lay stretched in lazy apathy before me like a mighty mirror. With what rapture did I inhale the pure western breeze, already breathing into my languid and exhausted frame, a new life and hopes of health. I had long since abandoned almost every prospect of again beholding this glorious sight, and only clung to the bare idea as the ship-wrecked mariner to the broken oar, which promises but to prolong his doubtful existence. To those associations of naval glory that swell the heart of a Briton as he gazes upon the parent of his sea-girt isle, I must add those derived from an early professional acquaintance with that boisterous element. My heart quite yearned towards it, and I vainly longed for the wing of the white sea-gull to cut my way through the intervening space of air, and dip my heated frame in the cool element of the glassy ocean.

The heat of the sun had been very severe during this morning. Want of rest, sickness of stomach,

and the fatigue of travelling to one already a skeleton, added to the paralyzing pains of my inflamed liver, so overcame me that I almost doubted whether I should be able to reach the destination in view; nothing but the knowledge that it would be accomplished in four hours more, could have made me protract my journey. We now descended into the level country below, which was covered with a wood of juniper: this is the chief material used in house-building. It is not, on account of its honey-comb'd nature, capable of being converted into planks; but its durability, hardness, and strength, make it a most excellent material for the beams of the flat heavy Moorish roofs. I here became so weak as to be unable to carry any longer my light French double-barrelled gun, which I gave to one of our guards, and my pains increasing, I made frequent halts beneath the shade of the trees, by which I from time to time gained a slight return of strength, enabling me to proceed by degrees on my way, though I lost my companions, who, however, left behind with me two of the escort. As we cleared this juniper grove, we found ourselves on the border of a little desart of fine drift sand, that lies between Mogadore and the main land, of about three miles broad, and after threading our way through the little valleys, formed by a thousand moving hills of this subtle substance, which are for ever assuming different forms with every change of the wind, we found ourselves at the foot of the walls of Mogadore. Here my two escorts insisted upon my halting for

a few minutes, while they rode up and down the sand before me, and complimented me on my arrival by firing my *own* powder at my face, after which compliment, we passed under two arched gateways, and shortly after found ourselves in the great square near the Governor's palace, the inner court of which is appropriated by the present Governor to the service of the custom-house.

In the corner of the square, sitting on a long stone bench, we descried the Governor with some of his chief officers receiving Dr. Brown and Mr. Murray, who were already arrived. Half dead with pain and fatigue, I slid from my saddle and crept towards my companions. The old Governor, seeing my exhausted state, begged me to seat myself on the bench near him, whilst he made arrangements with Mr. Wiltshire, the British Vice-consul, concerning the choice of a house for us, and after some conversation, he said that he was well aware of our favour in the Sultan's eyes, and that it should be his endeavour to serve us in all we required of him. We made our obeisance and followed Mr. Wiltshire and one of the Governor's officers to the house agreed upon, which contained only two rooms; in consequence of which they gave us another small one close by, in which Mr. Murray and the servant took up their abode, whilst Dr. Brown and myself chose the former one. My first care was to order my bed to be prepared for me, and having slaked my thirst with some cider which Mr. Wiltshire sent me, I literally crawled into my bed, and almost instantly fell

into a deep sleep. How long I might have remained in this pleasing state of oblivion, had I been allowed to sleep on, I cannot say; but certain it is, that I was awaked on the following evening, while enjoying the five-and-twentieth hour of unbroken rest, and after partaking some tea, I again resigned myself to my repose, and awoke not until ten o'clock on the following morning, much refreshed, though far from well. Those who have not experienced similar fatigue while suffering from disease, can form no idea of the exquisite blessing of sound sleep.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Mogadore described.—Its Citadel, Fortifications, &c. —The peculiarity of the Fishing Boats there.—Mode of Executing Criminals.—The Caid or Governor of the Place and his Occupation.—The Food, Expenses of Living, Climate, &c.—The Jews, and their Mode of Living.

Mogadore, or Shwera, as it is called by the Moors, is seated upon a small patch of granular sand-stone rocks, and at high water is nearly insulated by the tide.

The principal mosque, which stands at the south end of the largest street, is a very extensive building, said to be very handsome in the interior, and having a square tower of great height; there is also another in the great square of the citadel. That part of Mogadore which is called the citadel, comprehends nearly half the town to the southward, and is divided from the other part by a high wall, with a strong gate; which is closed at nine o'clock every night. The houses in this part of the town are well-built and lofty, the streets are kept swept, and it bears more marks of cleanliness than any town I have seen in the dominions. There is but one house built

in the European style, which formerly belonged to a company of Genoese merchants.

The citadel contains within its walls the houses of most of the governors, chief officers, the royal palace, the custom-house, and the foreign consulates; besides a street of shops finely built of red sand stone, formerly occupied by European merchants. To the south of the citadel is the port and harbour, the latter of which is nearly an open roadstead, formed of a rocky island three miles from the shore. It has only twenty-three feet of water in the deepest part. The average depth for anchoring at low water is from twelve to nineteen feet, sufficient for the purposes of small trading vessels, but dangerous even to these in rough weather, with a sea wind. The anchorage is open to the south-west swell, which is but imperfectly broken by shallows and reefs that run out from the main land and the island. In other countries than this, industry and art would have combined to render such a perfectly safe harbour for small vessels, by breaking the swell from the south-west. The entrance to the harbour is by the northern passage. The island is high and rocky, is about a mile and a half in length, and three quarters in breadth. It is set aside exclusively for the confinement of state-prisoners, who are here made to eke out their days of repentance, until their faces become "whitened before the eyes of the Sultan."* This island is defended,

* A figurative phrase used to express the return of the Sultan's favour.



C. Beauclerk pinx.ᵗ

On Stone by Giles.

A View of the Arsenal at Mogadore.

Printed by Engelmann, Graf, Coindet, & Co.

or rather, intended to be so, by a few crazy pieces of ordnance, ensconced behind mud wall embrasures. The port or landing-place is a long stone slip at the arsenal, which comprehends a large range of casements, built bomb-proof, flanked by two elegantly-formed square towers, with turrets at the angles, and embrasures for small ordnance. These two towers are connected by a battery of two tiers, many of the embrasures containing fine pieces of brass ordnance, of a calibre unfortunately much too heavy for the carriages, which seem ready to unhorse their riders at the first discharge. This work faces the harbour, and in the centre you pass through it, under a lofty stone arched gateway, to arrive on the landing slip. From the westermost tower, a longer battery stretches out to the southward, on a ledge of rocks, partially defending the landing-place from the westerly swell. This tongue has a bastion at the end, mounted with six or eight guns, as well as both sides of the tongue, which has twenty-four embrasures on a side. Beneath this battery is a most extensive tank, containing a vast supply of rain water, gathered from the adjacent works, in rainy weather, by means of conduits. This is the only supply of water which the inhabitants can depend upon in case of a siege, and is quite insufficient to supply half the town. The interior of this battery also contains a great number of state prisons not now in use. They are bomb-proof cells of fifteen feet in length, having no light

but such as beams through a small aperture, of two inches square, at the end, left for the purpose of tantalizing the unhappy prisoner, with enough of that blessing to make him regret the pleasing sight denied him, without rendering him the smallest benefit from it. The whole of these works, as well as those of the line wall defending the town to the westward, and a round tower to the eastward, were built by a Portuguese engineer, who no doubt made a job of the affair, for to an unscientific eye the works are finely executed, but in reality are too flimsy to bear five minutes breaching. Within the walls of the arsenal is a small green-tiled building supported by pillars, under which passes all the heavy merchandize landed on the adjacent slip, for the purpose of being weighed.

The fishing boats, of which there are about eight or nine, serve also as lighters for lading and unlading merchantmen. Every evening at sun-set, they are hauled up the slip, and locked within the gates during the night. These boats, are what at Lisbon the English call bean-pods, resembling as they do the pod of that seed. It is therefore evident that the Portuguese made use of these boats, when in this country; from whom the Moors learnt the art of building them. Besides the elegance of this style of boat, it combines the two advantages of lightness and the capability of conveying a great weight. When empty, it seems scarcely to touch the water, sitting like a canoe on its centre; but as it is depressed by a cargo, the two ends gradually

meeting the surface of the water, offer increasing resistance to the additional weight. Near the spot where these boats are drawn up, is the scene of public execution. The criminal having landed on the slip, from the prison on the island, and having passed the arched gateway, is made to walk towards a corner of the yard in front, while his sentence of death is reading, and at the moment of its conclusion, a party of soldiers from behind, discharge their guns at the criminal, who often falls a prolonged victim of cruelty to the awkwardness of his executioners. The ordinary mode of execution at Mogadore for common criminals, is that chosen by the Spanish grandees as their peculiar prerogative,—the severing of the head from the body by means of a large sharp knife, as the head of the culprit is held back for the purpose : a more undignified disgusting mode of execution I cannot well conceive.

Mogadore is completely walled in, and has three principal gates, which with many interior ones are closed at sunset. On the land side it is protected from the attacks of the neighbouring country, by a round tower before-mentioned, planted with brass cannon. On the west, or sea-side, is an extensive line-wall, crowned with ordnance, and having beneath a range of bomb-proof casements, capable of containing four or five thousand men ; at the extremity of this is a small bastion of four guns. This battery offers a delightful situation for enjoying the fresh air of the ocean, and we used frequently to repair thither for that purpose.

It is impossible to imagine a greater burlesque on fortification than is this pride of Mogadore. Here are intermixed the inventions of every age and country. The brass guns, of which there are many beautiful Barcelona productions, are, from the durable nature of the metal, in good order; but those of iron are scaling off, in sheets of rust as thick as your hand, without even an effort on the part of a friendly paint-brush to save them from extinction. Out of about twenty-five pieces of ordnance on this line of wall, there is not one that would stand half a dozen rounds, in such a deplorable state are the carriages, most of which have been constructed at Mogadore, being nothing more than two long shafts of wood, on solid wheels of the same light material; and, to complete the absurdity of the whole appearance, the touch-holes are defended from the inclemency of the weather by stones which the zeal of the gunner has substituted for leaden caps. At the northern end of this battery, is another small one at right angles facing the north: here are four of as good specimens of the dilapidation of time as I ever beheld. One whose numbered years would have literally done credit to the age of Methusalem, had sunk under the hand of time, having lost its hinder wheels, while the mouth assuming a most unmilitary degree of elevation, appeared to be turning its thoughts towards heaven in unison with two brass ten inch mortars, which sat surrounded by a family of little ones, gaping with hunger like a committee of frogs debating on the weather.

Mogadore has no supply of water within the town, save that which is collected from the rain. All the water that is used by the inhabitants is procured from a stream at the distance of two miles and a half by animal carriage, and thus the town might be made to surrender in a few days by cutting off the passage of the water carriers; to prevent which, however, in a measure, a small village has been built on the side of a hill overhanging the stream, and near the mouth of it was placed a round tower, with a small one in the centre, both planted with cannon and intended to command the mouth of the river and the south-west passage of the roadstead. This fort, however, being built contrary to the good old adage, upon a foundation of sand, has fallen a victim to the inundations of the river, which in rainy seasons swells to a torrent. It was first struck with lightning, and about two years ago, was completely undermined by the torrent, which sweeping away the sandy foundation on one side, it fell suddenly into entire ruins. With a very little trouble the water of this river might be conveyed into the town by a subterranean aqueduct through the sands, while the head would be protected by a small fort built higher up the banks of the river seated on a rock.

Near this old fort is a large house built by the late Sultan, also on the sands. It is a large square enclosure of high walls, containing five small green-tiled pavilions, one of which is in the centre, and the others at the four corners of the

quadrangle. This palace was constructed to prevent the necessity of the Sultan's living in the town, when on a visit to Mogadore, feeling, I suppose, more secure on this little desart with his body troops around him than in the town. Out of the frying pan into the fire, is rather applicable to the situation of this palace, for the architect avoiding, as it were, the error of him who built the fort on the sandy banks of the torrent, has, in his zeal for the Sultan's safety, placed it on the confines of the little moving desart, forgetting, or perhaps not knowing, that African history affords more awful examples of cities buried by sand, than swept away by water. A stone placed on a desart will always be the means of raising a heap, a heap a hillock, and then a hill. This is the case with Seedna's house, whose walls are already half buried, for blow which ever way the wind will, it is the rendezvous or rallying post of the drift sands; and in a few years will be rendered uninhabitable.

Mogadore is ruled by a great Caid, as governor, whose name is Hash Hash,* one of the best

* Hash Hash has a brother of the same name, lately made Basha of Tetuan. His father commenced life as a muleteer, and afterwards became Basha of Tetuan, where he is said to have amassed great sums of money by extortion and taxes. The late Sultan took occasion to quarrel with him, that he might lay his hands on the old man's purse, who after holding out against his Lord, for a considerable time, was at last inveigled into a surrender; when he was immediately thrown into prison, and severely bastinadoed at intervals to make him discover his hidden wealth; but such is the love of money in this country, that neither the bastinado, nor the other sufferings he endured, were sufficient to

servants of the Sultan, who was himself formerly Governor of this town. Hash Hash is a man of about fifty years of age, and under an uncouth exterior, possesses considerable abilities, and a most polished manner. He is much liked at Mogadore. He is employed generally during the day in personally acting the part of a Custom-house officer, by inspecting merchandize, to prevent smuggling, and to receive the dues. During the evening, he sits in the corner of the large square, at the door of the custom-house, on a stone bench fixed against the wall, and there receives petitions, and grants audiences to all comers. He keeps up no state, and when at leisure, mingles without form amongst his people as a private person.

As all supplies of food, except fish and bread, are brought from the neighbouring country with some difficulty, the expense of living at Mogadore

make him surrender the whole of his long earned wealth; part of which he left to his two sons, he himself dying from the severity of his punishment. Amongst the many means taken to urge him to discover his riches, that of putting live cats into the amplitude of what in the Moorish dress can scarcely be termed small clothes, is of a novel nature in the catalogue of tortures. Shortly before the present time, I saw his son at Tetuan, who had just taken possession of that government. He had paid the present Sultan 48,000 dollars for his situation, which had recently become vacant by the seizure of the late governor of Tetuan, who like Hash Hash had been sent up to Marocco for the purpose of being squeezed; where we saw him when we were there. Having passed his period of purgatory, he was, as is the custom, again taken into favour, and at that time was ruling, scales in hand, at the head of the Sultan's beef butchery for the troops.

is greater than at Marocco. The meat too is of an inferior quality, but the continual supply of fine fish afforded by the sea, is an ample compensation for the loss of other luxuries. The different kinds of fish of which we partook, while at Mogadore, were the turbot, dory, sole, tasagalt, old maid, bream, whiting, and sardinias; crawfish and shrimps are also abundant. The tasagalt is a large fish of the size and shape of a salmon, of a whitish brown colour. To the taste, it is a strong, highly flavoured fish, and is caught by the hook, in such quantities as to form the principal part of the poor people's diet.

The climate of Mogadore is decidedly a very healthy one; influenced as it is by the sea-breezes during the major part of the year.

During the dreadful heat we experienced at Marocco, the thermometer at Mogadore, ranged at about 76, and during the nights the fall was much greater than the usual proportion of change at sun-set, in warm climates; owing to the cool evening breeze off the Atlantic. Notwithstanding, however, the usual salubriety of this place, it had suffered much during this summer from ague, a complaint the Moors call berd or cold: as they also call a a fever skanna or heat. The inhabitants of Mogadore are certainly the finest race I have seen in Marocco. The comparative coldness of their climate braces their limbs, and nerves them to more exertion than seems generally to suit the apathy of other Moors. From their intercourse with strangers, they have imbibed much of the

civilization of Europeans; of whose various languages they have also retained a smattering, particularly the oaths of the English.* They are remarkably well-behaved, and indeed the better classes of society are elegantly polite.

The Jews at Mogadore, as in most towns of the empire, have a separate quarter of the town appropriated to them, within the walls of which they are nightly enclosed at the hour of evening gun-fire, by a Caid who has charge of the gate day and night, to prevent the ill-timed intrusion of the Moors. Many of the richer Jews wear round hats, and some indeed frock coats; an affectation borrowed from the Europeans. The wearing of hats, however, is an attempt at singularity that the Sultans of Marocco have had the sagacity to indulge and turn to their own account, by allowing those who can afford it, to pay an exemption from the general law; which obliges all Jews to wear the small black skull-cap. This indulgence often costs them very dear; for as they are reputed rich, so does the Sultan urge his demands. I was informed that a Jew there had paid 8000 dollars for this privilege, which after all is only a distin-

* One who prided himself particularly upon his proficiency in our tongue, asked me one day, "Why for you have beard all same Moor? English ladies no like that." "Yes, Embark, said I, it tickles them." He looked puzzled for a moment, as he turned over the leaves of his memory, but as if suddenly remembering the word, he said, "Oh yes! I know, 'tea-kettle' I hear that before," and so saying, away he trudged, delighted at having enriched his vocabulary with the word, which he kept repeating to himself as he walked along the street.

guishing mark like that placed by a shepherd on a fat sheep, by which the Sultan is enabled to ascertain which head is best worth taking off, when his coffers are empty.

The Jewish women are here, as elsewhere, very handsome generally, and individually are often perfection's self. The Jewish town is a very dunghill; the streets are so many beds of chicken's feathers, which are made no use of, and are therefore allowed to accumulate in the highway, which from the great consumption of this species of food, and the naturally dirty Jewish habits, is a soft mass of filth of every sort mixed up with feathers. The Jews thus bring upon themselves the reproach of filthiness, so much the horror of the delicate Musselmen, who dignify their Jewish countrymen by the appellation of Puercos.* Some of the interiors of the Jewish houses are fitted up with some expense, but exhibit a sad mixture of extravagance and meanness, defiled by dirt and stench, which is only rendered endurable to a European by the sight of those gazelle-eyed beauties, who give one an idea of the perfection of original man; whose image has been perpetuated in a race whose ancient date and customs allow them to boast of the purest blood.

However much the learned may have declared the beau ideal of the human contour to be the offspring of custom and prejudice, I am still of opinion that what we call a regular set of features,

* Hogs in Spanish.



Young Moroccan Jewish Maiden on the top of a House

enlivened by large languishing eyes, and a loving expression of countenance, is the original face of our first mother or mothers; from the internal feeling of delight which springs spontaneously in the bosoms of the most ignorant men of all enlightened nations, at the sight of such fair visions. Corrupt taste may pervert the beau ideal of the human form, but the existence of a true standard is not therefore to be denied. The narrow-minded Chinese, whose short-sighted jealousy has been the means of regulating his beau ideal of a foot,—the Turk, whose depraved taste, sated by the variety of a harem, nothing but a mass of Circassian fat flesh can delight; or the thousand follies of fashion in our own country, which alternately made many of our lovely country-women disguise by unnatural compression the most enchanting charm of their persons, and the men to imagine perfection in their sex the nearest approximation to the form of a wasp: are not arguments sufficient to prove that the Grecian beau ideal is only ours by adoption.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Notabilia during the Sojourn of the Travellers at Mogadore.

The trade of Mogadore was formerly very considerable; her port was open to the English, French, American, Dutch, Swedish, Russian, Sardinian and other countries' vessels; who all had their consuls, and, with the resident merchants, formed amongst themselves a little society, that combined to render the irksomeness of their life in this place, at least, bearable; but times have greatly altered at Mogadore, which now only boasts of two European consuls, and one European mercantile house, conducted by Mr. Wiltshire, also British vice-consul. The second consulate was that of Sardinia, in whose house lived a Maltese merchant, Don Pedro (now in unfortunate circumstances) and two young Italian supercargos. These (with the inmates of Mr. Wiltshire's house) were the society which we found

upon arriving at Mogadore. The Sardinian consul and Don Pedro called upon us the day after our arrival, and with a hospitality worthy of men in more affluent circumstances, offered the kindest assistance to us in anything in which they could serve us, which, as far as tables and chairs, we accepted of; not being themselves supplied with those little comforts and delicacies so agreeable or necessary to sick men, they could do no more.

Shortly after our arrival, I was again attacked with ague, but after a few fits, I began gradually to recover my strength. The cool nights, to which we had so long been strangers, brought with them refreshing sleep, that most infallible of all prescriptions, and it is a curious circumstance that Dr. Brown, who had escaped this disease during our stay at Marocco, where it appeared so prevalent, was attacked at last, shortly before our departure from Mogadore, during weather the least likely to bring it on; but long will this old man sometimes stick to the back of his resistless patient.

The mules which the Sultan had given us being found troublesome, and seeing no prospect of our being able to convey them to Gibraltar at a reasonable price, Mr. Murray and myself resolved to dispose of them. Mr. Wiltshire came to me one day and told me "that as Mrs. Wiltshire had taken a fancy to mine, he was willing to purchase it of me." I replied, "that I had no objection, and should leave the price to him

to settle, as he was better acquainted with that than myself." He replied, "that in consequence of the quantity of mules, at present in the market, he thought thirty dollars a fair price." I therefore sent him my mule. In the evening, the Sardinian consul told me that a Moor had asked him if I would have parted with her to him for forty-five dollars, and, upon afterwards mentioning the circumstance to some Moors of respectability, they assured me she was worth fifty dollars at least in the market, and that many would have given more than that for her as the Sultan's present. It was then only, that I was able to appreciate the real value of the Sultan's bounty, which I had before thought rather insignificant. The sale of Mr. Murray's mule in the market, proved the truth of what had been told me; for in comparison with mine, Mr. Murray's mule was hardly worth half the sum, and yet was bought up readily at twenty-four dollars. I asked the auctioneer the reason of so large a price having been paid for so poor a mule; he replied, "that owing to the scarcity of straw, on the previous year, numbers of mules had died; and that consequently, they were now scarce."

The auctioneer (who walked it up and down the streets) was a sturdy black fellow, who, to his credit, resisted the entreaties of one who shamefully tried to bribe him with four dollars to knock the mule down to him for sixteen. The sale by auction consists in two ways, the stationary and the current. In the latter, of which

we have just been talking, the auctioneer walks from house to house, carrying with him the articles for sale, and stating their increasing prices to the original bidders, as he receives a better bid, and pocketing a per centage on the bargain. To prevent bribery, however, the auctioneer is liable to lose his head, if discovered.

This mode has an advantage, which is, that it allows the owner of the goods to accept of any offer made him to stop the further progress of the article in the market. The auction-market is an enclosure of small bazaars, in which sit the owners of the merchandize around them; and a number of auctioneers, chosen for their stentorian powers, continue striding up and down the enclosed square, calling out at the full pitch of their voices, the price or last bid of the article; over which as they hold it up, they pronounce some of their best puffs. The scene at first sight is rather terrific; the wild and swoln countenances of the auctioneers, as they strain their iron lungs in boisterous pre-eminence, maintaining a gravity but ill adapted to the frivolous article of their noisy encomiums; the furious gestures of those who are seen brandishing in the air rusty swords and daggers, like personifications of the malignant passions; and the uncurbed expression of astonishment depicted in the countenance of the tawny Arab, as his large dark eyes expand to a vacant stare; all contribute to favour the illusion that the scene before you is a mad-house, and the actors maniacs of the highest order.

Finding, however, that no one insulted us, we used frequently to repair to this scene of uproar. Seeing one day a long double-edged sword coming towards me in procession, like our great sword of state in Westminster abbey, I arrested its progress, and upon examination, I found it an old time-browned Toledo of the age of chivalry, which still possessed all the elasticity of its youth in a most astonishing degree, while on its blade was engraved,

"No me saques sin razon,
No me embaines sin honor."*

There was something touching in the misfortunes of this venerable defender of chivalry, that seemed to appeal to my generosity to save it from the ignominious fate it was about to undergo, in being knocked down for two shillings. It had perhaps fought many a deadly action, in defence of honour, rescued many a damsel from the hands of her ravisher, cleft asunder many a Saracen's turbaned head, in the iron grasp of a proud templar; or "who knows," thought I; "but it may be the identical sword of the renowned knight of the sorrowful figure, Don Quixote de la Mancha." Its dark woe-begone look decided in favour of this last supposition, and I resolved to rescue from its impending fate this gem of chivalry, which was on the point of falling into the hands of a Jewish shoemaker, who would have converted it into knives for his stall; and

* "Do not draw me without reason,
Nor sheath me without honour."

that which had been formed for the dignified employment of cutting up bodies, would have ended by cutting up——pardon me, gentle reader, I was on the point of imagining a pun. So putting my hand into my *own* pocket, I pulled out as much bad copper coin as amounted to a sixpence, and saved the companion of heroes from the company of the awl and lapstone.

The principal article of sale, however, of this market is the woollen manufacture of the country, such as is made into the bournouse or cloak, and the haik, a species of covering like a large table cloth in shape, folded around the person according to the fancy or taste of the wearer.

Some of these woollen manufactures are of a superior strength and closeness to any I have seen in England, and are an excellent substitute for camlets; which they far surpass in closeness of web and strength, and are equally light. This cloth is woven by a perpendicular loom, to which a heavy weight is attached to give it greater force, and by this means it is rendered perfectly impenetrable by water; and it is not an uncommon thing to see a soldier, upon an emergency, making use of his cloak as a water-bucket, which purpose it fully answers. Mogadore, however, is not celebrated for any particular species of manufacture.

I used frequently, as I recovered my strength, to ride along the sands to the south of the town, on the horse given by the Sultan to Dr. Brown, who not being a horseman, it had now become the

property of Mr. Murray. During these little excursions, I was sometimes attended by Mr. Trepas, an agreeable young man in the house of Mr. Wiltshire. In one of these rides, he took me to see an argan tree in the neighbourhood, of prodigious dimensions. The spread of the lower boughs of this tree, (which have drooped with age until partially buried with soil) is thirty paces, and the height about forty-five feet. This tree, (from the shelter it affords, and its fantastically knarled boughs forming a variety of easy seats) was usually the scene of the pic-nic parties of the merchants, in former times. The situation presented a magnificent view of a very extensive valley to the south-east, and in the azure distance arose the aspiring Atlas like a *Titanian fabric*, from whose silver mantle of snow were now reflected the rays of a most resplendent sun.

While enjoying, with my companion, the shade of our retreat and the grandeur of the scenery before us, I observed two of those small owls I have before mentioned, and calling to a black slave, through the medium of Mr. Trepas, (who had acquired the Arabic with wonderful quickness) I bid him endeavour to catch me two of these birds; which he promised doing.

Not far from this place is another seat of retirement of the merchants of Mogadore, who formerly kept in order a small house and garden of vegetables, at a pretty sequestered spot, near the stream which supplies Mogadore with water, and the angler with mullet. But the stream is the

only object uninjured by time, for weeds have choaked the garden, and the house is the habitation of the lizard and the scorpion.

On returning home from our ride, we overtook a Moor mounted on rather a handsome horse, gaily caparisoned; he was the servant of a rich old Caid, a renowned warrior, and a man of great consequence in this country. This fellow had charge of his stud, which was numerous. Amongst other conversation concerning horses, he gave us a recipe for getting them into sleek condition, which he pronounced infallible. It was this: dissolve half a pound of fresh butter in your horse's water, which for some time he will refuse drinking, but thirst will at last overcome his repugnance, and after a few times, custom will render it easy: this is to be continued for thirteen days, giving him no exercise. At the end of this time commence riding him gently, and, in a short time he will become beautifully sleek, with a coat of velvet; and as a proof of the receipt, he pointed to the horse on which he was then mounted, which he said had just then finished taking the above prescription. The animal was certainly the sleekest of the sleek, but it had not yet acquired the beautiful coat which he said it would shortly have. He then talked with great enthusiasm of his master, who, I afterwards learned, was so sure a marksman as to be able (whilst at full speed on horseback) to single out his adversary from the enemy's ranks, at two hundred yards, and bring him

down with a ball. He seems to have possessed an inventive genius, and amongst other warlike experiments he had made use of, was that of a species of flying artillery composed of small swivels mounted on camels; which, however, failed, from the want of skilful artillerymen.

We were greatly disappointed at not finding a vessel at Mogadore, which we had expected from Gibraltar, and our eyes were eternally directed towards the anxious quarter. At last a vessel arrived, but we soon found it was not the one we expected, but another laden with goods for the house of Mr. Wiltshire, and having on board Monsieur Shalliet newly appointed vice-consul, vice Mr. Wiltshire, removed. Monsieur Shalliet having brought with him his wife, our society by these means became ameliorated. On his arrival he was totally unprovided with a house, there being no consular establishment at this place; and he was therefore under the necessity of accepting an offer of apartments from Mr. Wiltshire, until a Moorish house could be prepared for him.

Day after day having elapsed without any appearance of the long-expected vessel, we at last determined upon writing to Gibraltar to acquaint our friends at that place of the reason of our detention, in hopes of their being able to hire some vessel at a moderate price for our use. We despatched a courier on foot with our letters to Tangiers. These couriers, the best of whom are blacks, perform their journeys in a wonderfully short time. Cloathed in a thick, short, woollen bournouse,

with a staff, a scrip containing the food, money and despatches, and a small earthern jar for water, they set out to complete journeys of twelve or fourteen days, resting during the heat of the day under a fig tree or a rock, and travelling with great rapidity at night. When crossing a river that has no ferry-boat, they bind their clothes and scrip on the top of the head, and swim across, proceeding with fresh vigour on their journey. They are generally paid upon the delivery of their letters, and are therefore very trustworthy and secret.

The daily supply which we received from the Governor by order of the Sultan, consisted of a quarter of mutton, six fowls, a dozen of eggs, tea and sugar. The mutton at Mogadore is of a very inferior quality, and the beef but poor. Kids form a great part of the consumption of those who indulge in meat; and fowls, the chief ingredient of the national dish of couscassou, are very cheap; three for a pistorine, and eggs five dozen for five pence, English. An abundance of the red-legged partridges are always to be had, which are taken alive by the net, and also hunted down by horsemen, who continue riding after them in the open country, until the bird is unable, from fatigue, to rise. I bought several dozen of these with a view of transporting them to England and Gibraltar, where Sir George Don, amongst his other elegant improvements of the rock, has taken much pains to encourage them to breed, and with tolerable success. These birds, though exceedingly wild,

are very soon reconciled to confinement; in a very short time I succeeded in making them eat from my hand, and out of three dozen, I only lost three previous to my departure. The sportsman who brought them, begged me to cut both their wings to prevent them from flying in case of escape. I laughed at what I thought the fellow's ignorance, in persisting that both wings should be cut, telling him that this would be likely to give the bird a better balance; nothing however seemed to convince him of the truth of what I said, as I continued after our custom, to cut the wings on one side close up to the thick part of the quill. Having turned them into a small basket for the moment, one of them effected its escape, and immediately fluttered to the top of the house. I snatched up my gun and crept softly to the head of the stairs, when to my infinite astonishment, I beheld the bird in full and rapid flight, at sixty yards, clearing the town, and making for the country to the eastward. I was then convinced how necessary it is to listen to, what appears the ignorance, and often proves to be the experience, of the natives of those countries in which we travel. I can only account for the rapid flight of this bird, under such disadvantages, by the amazing strength of the muscle in the wings, which enabled it, by the redoubled exertion on the one side, to counter-balance the defects of the other. I also had three camelions constantly in my room, whose ridiculous manner of fighting, caused us much amusement. I could never detect them eating, nor did they seem to take any

notice of the flies which were constantly settling on their heads.

We had been much pleased upon arriving at Mogadore, at finding there our friend the Spanish Doctor, in whom upon better acquaintance, we found a very excellent man, possessing much dryness of humour, and a diverting turn for mimicry; he used to come very often to us to take his soup with us, that being the only nourishment of which he ever partook, and over which he would discuss Spanish politics, and expose the scandalous lives of the priests of his country, of whom he had an insurmountable horror. The poor fellow, like many of his unfortunate countrymen, had been obliged to fly his country for his principles, which were as dangerous to him as they were honourable; he entered Gibraltar as a barber's apprentice, where he remained until sent for by a sick Jew at Mogadore, as I have before-mentioned, and was now practising at this place, in hopes of supporting a wife and a large family which he had left at Malaga; a cup of coffee in the morning, with a crust of bread, formed his breakfast; and to all our entreaties that he would eat more dinner, his invariable answer was, no "*no senor, no come mas que sopa, nada mas,*" which he would utter with the true Andalusian scorn for the letter S, while he seemed to screw up his resolution to maintain a habit, I much fear, contracted in poverty, and sustained from principle.

One day, while at dinner, we were unexpectedly gratified by the sight of the slashing Alkaid,

Hamet Ben Hassen, who came running in, breathless with haste and delight, at seeing us again. He had arrived from Marocco, he said, with some prisoners under his charge, and had only just set his foot on the ground, before he repaired the first thing to see his old friends; he was delighted to find us all recovered from illness, and what seemed to please him most, was, our getting up from our dinner and running to meet him; it assured him, he said, of the sincerity of our friendship for him. Never did I witness a more true unaffected attachment, than was that of our friend Hamet, whose noble countenance clearly displayed the emotions of his high-born soul. He told us many interesting particulars of our friends at Marocco, and he also gave us an account of Mr. Macnean, alias *Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox*, who had been detected by the Sultan, whose acuteness of observation extends over his whole household, in having kidnapped our supply of fresh bread and butter, while at Marocco. The wily Jew, who had heard of the Sultan's unexampled kindness and condescension in supplying us from his own table with these luxuries, resolved to obtain them for himself, not, I suppose, for the immediate value of them, but, because their being seen brought to his house by one of the royal servants, would give him great consequence in the eyes of the world, as one on whom the Sultan was in the habit of conferring the greatest honour he could render a subject. To this end, he bribed the Sultan's servant to bring him our bread and butter; upon

discovering which, the Sultan had been furious, and though he had forgiven Mr. Macnean, (probably at the expense of a few bags of money,) he had most severely bastinadoed the man who took the bribe, which he desired we should be informed of. From the highest to the lowest; from the great Mr. Macnean who drove his four horses in London, and became a willing bankrupt to the ruin of many, down to the paltry Jacop, our victualler, who had cheated the Sultan, ourselves, and his own brethren, such are the Jews. We made Hamet Ben Hassan promise that he would look upon our house as his, while he remained, which he feared would not be long.

He came to dine with us the next day, and seemed much pleased by our kindness to him. He wore a very beautiful haik of delicate workmanship, which attracted our attention. Dr. Brown had long wished to procure one of the same kind, and incautiously admired it. The well-mannered Caid no sooner observed that the Doctor was looking at it, than he sprang from his seat, and untwisting himself from its fleecy folds, he presented it to the Doctor with the greatest simplicity and earnestness. It was in vain the Doctor declared he would not accept it, for the poor fellow said that to refuse his offer would be to refuse his friendship, and after an almost equal degree of perseverance on both sides, the Caid at last agreed, though reluctantly, to receive a compensation for it, and being asked the price, he generously pointed out the mark at the corner of

the haik, which was nearly half as little as what Dr. Brown was prepared to give. We were all much delighted by this new proof of the generosity of our friend's character. In the course of the evening I asked him to accompany me to the sea-side, to fire with my rifle, thinking it would amuse him; we therefore repaired to the beach, and having placed part of a bullock's scull, whitened by the sun, on a rock at seventy-three paces, I loaded my rifle, and presenting it to Hamet, I instructed him how to take his aim through the sights, all of which he seemed to comprehend, and after a deliberate aim, he fired; the ball, however, fell short of the mark, though the direction was good. I took my turn then, and passed a ball through the right temple of the scull, to the infinite delight of the by-standers. Hamet laughingly pointed to the opposite temple, saying "the next time it must be there." I again offered him the rifle, and he proceeded with more care, to regain his credit as a marksman, and taking off his turban with his right hand, as his left grasped the rifle, he raised it slowly and gracefully above his bare head to the full extent of his arm, and looking up to heaven, with intense earnestness in his handsome features, he uttered a short prayer to Alla, in which he was joined by those present, invoking him to favour his aim; he then looked long and steadily at the mark, and fired. Alas! his prayers had been unsuccessful; again I took my turn, and brought down my mark, and to the wonder and dismay of the Caid, the ball

had passed directly through the scull, at the place he had jokingly pointed out as its destination. The poor fellow, who regarded my success as something supernatural, while his own failure appeared like the frowning of heaven on his supplications, looked very sad, but I rallied him, and told him he would soon become a good shot if he would practise, and I challenged him to one more trial. He again uncovered his head, and turning to the by-standers he reproached them, in bitter terms, for not having prayed fervently, or the Christian would never have gained the victory; to this, they replied, by a regular attack upon Mahomet, whose cause they seemed to think concerned in the issue of the day. But Mahomet seemed to think otherwise, for he paid as little attention this time to his true believers as before, and the Caid fired his last ball with as little effect as the two former.

His despair now amounted almost to vexation, and he said he would fire no more, and was preparing to depart, when I smiled and said, "Stop a moment Hamet, I have one more charge, and we should not leave the bull's head standing." With this, the last ball whistled through the air, and sent the skull flying from its resting place. *Bono, Capitano, Bono,* echoed around us, and Hamet Ben Hassan came slowly up to me with a sorrowful, yet kind expression of countenance, which shewed that his feelings were struggling between his admiration of me as a friend, and his prejudice as a Mahometan, who considered that his religion

had suffered a defeat, and clasping my hand with warmth, he said, that I was *muy maestro* of the art, and his great friend; with this he turned about, and we walked towards the town. Hamet hurried to the mosque, to wipe away by prayer what he seemed to regard a judgment on his sins. Shortly after he joined me at tea with a more cheerful countenance, and again took my hand, and pronounced me "*muy maestro.*" He seemed much cheered by my telling him that he would soon be a good marksman, and then, turning the conversation, he bid me tell him about my country; the description of which seemed much to delight him, and he went away, hoping that he might one day visit England, in which I most sincerely joined him. I never saw our friend after, and I therefore imagine that he was hurried off to Marocco, without time to wish us adieu. Shortly after this we heard many accounts of the expected arrival of Mr. Macnean at Mogadore, in quality of Ambassador to the King of England, conveying with him lions, tigers, &c. as presents from the Sultan. Our Goverment, however, hearing of the probability of Mr. Macnean's embassy, transmitted orders to the Consul-general, to prevent passports being given him, as his character would not permit of his being received at the English court. This will, in all probability, be a most fatal blow to Mr. Macnean's *greatness*, against whom the Sultan will be so incensed, at hearing of his Ambassador's disgrace, and the cause of it, that he will be able with a very fair pretence to confiscate all Mr.

Macnean's property, even if he should be lucky enough to escape death, or the island.

Our anxiety concerning the arrival of a vessel was again gratified, but again were we disappointed, for nothing short of 600 dollars would induce the Captain, who was bound to England, to break his insurance by putting into Gibraltar. Day after day, therefore, continued to pass away, and still no vessel came to our relief, until nearly two months had elapsed, when suddenly a large Sardinian brig appeared in the offing. The monotony of our life at Mogadore had so *ennuied* us, that the thoughts of again finding ourselves amongst Christians, made us quite wild with joy.

When the Captain came on shore, we found that he was from Gibraltar, consigned to the Italian Jew, Busnachi, the most opulent man at Mogadore, who dresses in the Eastern Jewish costume, and wears a European hat. The Captain informed us, that he should discharge his cargo with all expedition, and then return to Gibraltar. We engaged to go with him. The usual passage-money to that place, is a doubloon, and, as the Sultan had supplied us with all things necessary for our sea voyage, which, upon the average of fair weather passages, is performed in seven days, we considered that this would be ample.

The vessel having discharged her cargo, we were visited on the part of the captain by a young Italian Jew of the house of Busnachi, who, after some preamble, offered to settle with us about the passage-money, and ended by declaring the Cap-

tain's intention to take us all to Gibraltar for 600 dollars. I must confess, I never felt a stronger inclination to knock any one down for presumption, than the fellow before me, who had dared to be the conveyer of such a monstrous proposition.

After a long debate, in which I taxed him, his master, and the Captain, as cheating villains, I, for my part, ended by declaring that I would never submit to such an imposition. We then agreed to go to Busnachi, to whose clerk I declared, on the way, my intention of immediately making a complaint against his master to the Sultan, in case I found out (as I suspected) that he had incited the Captain to make so unreasonable a demand. This had its effect, for upon arriving at Busnachi's house, I asked him if he had influenced the Captain on this subject. His clerk, in the mean time, had addressed him in Arabic, and he replied to my question, "that he had had no hand in the affair, nor did he wish to interfere." I then begged him to put that on paper, which he did, and gave it to me.

We then left his house, and went in search of the captain, whom we found at the end of the street; and to our interrogations, he declared, "that he had left the management of the whole in the hands of Mr. Busnachi, who had ordered that he should not touch at Gibraltar, but proceed straight to Leghorn, unless we induced him so to do by the offer of a sum of money equivalent to his loss of time, which sum Mr. Busnachi had settled at 600 dollars, but that he should be willing

to take 400 instead. We then determined to repair to the house of Wiltshire, and inquire if they intended chartering any goods for Gibraltar, by which we might (by joining with them) bring the Genoese to better terms. The first person I met in the street near his own house, was Mr. Wiltshire, who in answer to my question, assured me "that he had not the least idea of chartering any goods." We then again repaired to the Captain, endeavouring to make him listen to reason; all, however, was in vain: for knowing the situation in which we were placed, and thinking that he could (as employed by government) exact what he pleased from us, he was determined to hold out in his demand. Exasperated to a degree against such cool determined villainy, I fairly told the fellow to his face that I would force him to take us at our own price. Upon this a clamour was raised on all sides against me; even my own companions declared against arbitrary measures, and represented the danger of exasperating the Captain, who would perhaps refuse taking us at all, and the Captain, choaking with rage, defied me to put my threat in execution; whereupon, I begged of Dr. Brown and Mr. Murray to accompany me to the Basha.

Dr. Brown objected to the plan, protesting that the Basha had no power over a vessel whose consul was at hand to protect her, and therefore declined the attempt. I therefore begged Mr. Murray to follow me, which he agreed to do; and we set out. Dr. Brown, seeing that we were determined to

proceed, at last agreed to accompany us, and we went off in search of the Governor. On our way thither, I was asked how I proposed forcing the Captain to conform to our agreement. I replied, "in any other country the task would have been more difficult, but in a country like this, (governed by despotism) I should not hesitate proceeding by force against a rascal who would not listen to reason; and was it to be supposed, that (as the Sultan's guests) the Governor would allow the Capto sail without us."—"How can he prevent it?" cried all at once.

"Refuse him ballast," said I, "without which he cannot move."—"But his Consul will force the Governor by treaty to give him ballast."—"Then he will charge him so high as to prevent him from taking it," I replied. In fact, I well knew the thousand means by which the arbitrary will of a Sultan is enforced, and so it proved. Not finding the Governor at his house, we were told that he would most likely be at the outside of the town, inspecting some works. Thither we went, and found the old man sitting on the rocks near the sea-side, inspecting the progress of some repairs which were making to the foundation of the town-wall, lately damaged by the sea. Having made our bows and salaams, we quietly stated our grievance to him, and begged his assistance. The interpreter had hardly finished speaking to him, when taking the conversation out of his mouth, as it were, he replied in a mild polite tone, "Tell them that I know how highly the Sultan

esteems them, and how well he has treated them, and it therefore becomes me as his servant to do even more to please them, and that such shall always be my endeavour upon all occasions." And then, raising his voice in anger, and with eager gesticulation, he continued, "Tell them,* that as to the Captain of the brig, I will see that he does not sail hence without them ; not a bale of goods shall he embark; not a drop of water shall he have ; nor ballast ; nor provisions ; unless he agrees to take them at the accustomed terms." He then turned suddenly to an attendant, to whom he appeared to be issuing some order, for the messenger immediately went off with despatch. His countenance and manner again assumed their wonted serenity ; and after we had thanked him for his ready assistance, he again assured us that all should be arranged to our satisfaction, and we took our leave, and re-entered the town, our undertaking having succeeded according to my sanguine expectations. On arriving at our house, we found that the Governor, with that remarkable quick-sightedness so pre-eminent in barbarous countries, had already despatched a messenger to the Caid of the guard at the arsenal, with orders to prevent the departure of the Captain to his vessel, and the landing of some wine belonging to Mr. Busnachi. He had seen in a moment the possibility of the enraged Captain's taking off provisions of which he stood in need, and sailing to some other port for ballast ; but he also knew nothing would induce

* "Goullou, tell them." The usual prelude of address.

Mr. Busnachi to forego the pleasure of landing his cask of wine, in the use of which beverage he is said to indulge largely.

The Jew was nearly as sharp as the Basha, for the instant he discovered that we had gone off to the latter, he sent with all expedition to the brig for his wine; but the order for its detention met it at the landing place, to the mortification of its owner, who found himself outwitted. Thus armed with the Basha's authority, we soon summoned the mortified Captain to a surrender of his demand; and with that ready return of good-humour for which Italians are famous, he soon complied with our offer, and signed the agreement. The day after this, upon asking the Captain when he should sail, he said he only waited the return of a courier from the Sultan, to whom Mr. Wiltshire had sent two days previous, a request to be allowed to ship off a cargo of returned flour to Gibraltar. This agreed but ill with the declaration of that house, that they had not the least idea of chartering any goods, a mercantile way of speaking, no doubt, for they certainly could not have wished to benefit the well-known house of Rentshaw at the expense of three subaltern officers of the army, by striking a good bargain for their freight on our expected four hundred dollars. In the evening, the Captain came to Mr. Murray, who was confined in bed with a return of ague, and offered to take his horse in the hold of the brig, to which Mr. Murray objected, saying, that as he was going to take flour on board, he might

hurt the horse. The Captain replied, that, on the contrary, he should so arrange the cargo as not to interfere with it; that he was accustomed to convey horses from Tunis to Italy, and that he therefore willingly undertook all the risk at his own expense, provided Mr. Murray agreed to pay him twenty-four dollars on its safe landing at Gibraltar. To this Mr. Murray agreed, and the Captain went away perfectly satisfied. On the day expected, a courier arrived from Marocco with the Sultan's permission to ship off the flour. In the meantime another vessel was descried in the offing, and in the course of the evening, arrived a polacca brig of English owners, from the Havannah, bound to Malaga. She had been out from that port eight months, having touched at St. Mary's and St. Michael's for a recruit of provisions, of which they were running very short, when they made Mogadore, in a very leaky condition. We now prepared joyfully for our departure, and I certainly never felt happier in my life than with the prospect of the speedy realization of my sanguine hopes of again reaching my own country. A few days before our departure, Mr. Murray sent to the Captain of our brig, requesting to know when his horse was to go on board, to which the other replied in many evasive ways, and even hinted before Mr. Murray and myself, that he should be obliged to leave thirty barrels of the flour behind, if he took the horse; to which we replied, that, of course that could not prevent him from fulfilling his previous engagement with

Mr. Murray. "*Certo que no*," replied the wily Genoese, fully aware, all the time, that he meditated breaking his agreement.

Two days after this, he finally declared it was impossible for him to take the horse, as Mr. Wiltshire had insisted upon his shipping all the flour. I then begged Mr. Murray to go immediately to Mr. Wiltshire, and state that his horse was prevented being embarked, on account of a few barrels of flour which could not be put in competition with the Sultan's present, convinced, as I felt, that that gentleman, could never consent to the Captain's quoting him as authority, for his having broken his engagement with Mr. Murray, formed before that of the Ex-vice-consul. Mr. Murray, however, declined taking these steps, or appealing to the interference of the Governor, which would have settled the matter in a moment, as the Sultan had ordered him to see us and our effects embarked on board any vessel bound to Gibraltar, and it would have been dangerous for him to have neglected this order. He therefore listened to a composition with the Captain, who, fearing no doubt, an appeal to that power he had already felt, proposed to undertake the expense of the horse by land, to Tangiers; and, as our interpreter had determined to go by that road to Tetuan, he undertook to see it safe to Tangiers. Dr. Brown, being taken ill with the ague, resolved to leave the shore, and accordingly repaired on board the vessel, where he remained until we finally embarked.

Amongst the few Europeans at Mogadore, was

a Maltese, whose misfortunes and persecution interested us in his behalf. It appears that Don Pedro, had fallen an unsuspecting victim to the arts of the Sultan, in a manner which I shall afterwards describe; suffice it at present to say, that, according to all the rules of fair dealing and free trade, Don Pedro had sustained much injustice from the Sultan, who had now just seized upon all that the poor man was possessed of in the world, as part payment of a pretended debt due to him by Don Pedro. In this dilemma and disgrace, the unfortunate man came to beg a favour of us, which was that we would write to the Sultan in his behalf, petitioning that, as an English subject, who had humanely sustained hundreds of starving wretches during the late famine, he would grant him his protection in trade. He seemed to attach so much consequence to the idea of our favour in the Sultan's eyes, that Mr. Murray and myself readily agreed to be in any way instrumental in restoring this unfortunate man to his situation as a merchant. There were those at Mogadore, who talked in sneers of this excellent man; but it was evident, from the general interest felt by all classes of the Moors in his behalf, and the kind manner in which they spoke of the soft-hearted bankrupt, that Don Pedro well merited the assistance of his own co-subjects. Dr. Brown, however impressed he declared himself with the good character of the merchant, and the injustice which had caused his ruin, declined interfering (as he considered it) between him and the Sultan.

I had nothing either to hope or fear from the Commander of the Faithful, and could have no hesitation in risking the displeasure of his Highness, in my endeavours to serve the unhappy Maltese; and I therefore sat down and composed the accompanying letter* to the Sultan, which was afterwards written in Arabic, and garnished with Orientalism, after the fashion of a scribe said to be famous for the flowers of his speech. This being performed, Mr. Murray and myself added our signatures. It luckily occurred to me at the moment, that I might add more weight to our letter, by using an artifice, excusable under similar circumstances. I remembered that in this country, none used seals but such as are high in authority, and I therefore determined to affix mine to my signature; and as the arms of my family are quartered in those of my country, the Sultan would naturally, upon seeing the Lion of England, which he knows from the seals affixed to official papers, compare it to those of royalty, and, observing the similarity, draw thence sundry confused notions of our consequence, likely to influence him favourably in his conduct towards Don Pedro. I therefore in *Fyn Sigillac, Vel Brand, en Vast houd,* stamped my arms opposite my own name, and my crest opposite that of Mr. Murray. Don Pedro immediately hired a courier to proceed with the letter to Marocco; but, previous to sending it, he shewed it to the Governor, who, having read it over, told him that our favour was great with the

* This letter will be found in the Appendix.

Sultan, and that he hoped our petition would succeed; but what was of more value than all the rest of it, were the seals, which evinced that we were men of consideration among our own people. We did not remain long enough to receive the Sultan's answer to our letter, but I trust it may have been useful to the excellent object of it. This evening, a Moor having been told I desired a small owl, brought me one he had caught the evening before: it was very wild and shy, but bore confinement well.

CHAPTER XIX.

The Travellers take leave of the Governor of Mogadore, and their friends there, and set sail from that place.

The long-expected, happy day, at last arrived, on which we were to take our final leave of the kingdom of Marocco. In the morning, the Governor sent us word that boats would be ready for our reception, and every convenience that lay in his power to grant, should be rendered us in our embarkation, and that at mid-day he should be ready to inspect our baggage at the custom-house previous to its passing the gate of the port. This, he said, was merely a form that would be gone through to prevent any appearance of partiality in administering the laws of the customs. At the hour appointed, therefore, we walked to the custom-house, in the court-yard of which we found the Governor sitting with eight fat secretaries all in a row, each having before him a small ink-horn and a ledger, in which he entered the duties upon the numerous articles that were opening for the inspection of the Governor; by this

means few mistakes were made, and the Governor could render an exact account of the custom-house dues to the Sultan, to whose private purse this part of the revenue exclusively belongs. The old gentleman received us very politely, and begged to assure us, how sorry he felt a tour departure, and that he had prepared for us the supplies ordered by the Sultan for our consumption at sea, which consisted of a bullock, four sheep with appropriate fodder, two large casks of flour, a large jar of honey, containing at least five gallons, a bag of couscassou, five dozen of fowls, and eight hundred eggs, besides tea, sugar and biscuits in proportion.

We expressed ourselves very well satisfied with the bounty of the Sultan, and his kindness. He then opened severally the different boxes of our baggage, into which he gently thrust his hand, with the scrupulosity of an oath-bound custom-house officer, who, in our own country, satisfies his conscience by this partial search, when a great man is in question: and though above *bribery,* to prevent the *opening* of your box, will nevertheless, on these occasions, receive a small compensation for *nailing* it down again. The latter part, however, was not the case with the governor, who having inspected the whole, with the greatest delicacy, caused them to be re-closed and sent on board. He expressed his intention of accompanying us to the landing-place, when we were ready to embark. This honour, however, we begged leave to decline, and proposed instead, taking our leave of him at his

usual evening seat in the square where we had first seen him. We then returned to our house to eat our last meal, and having taken leave of our apartments, which (as his cell to the prisoner) had become endeared to us by familiarity, we set off to the square. On our way, we called at the house of Monsieur Shalliet, to take leave of that amiable person and his lady. The latter shunned the pain of parting, but the former endeavoured in vain to meet with firmness a scene that was to deprive him of our company, and leave him isolated in a land of strangers. Of all situations of the kind, I know of none so deplorable as the Vice-consulate of Mogadore, a place which offers resources neither for employment nor pleasure of any sort. The antiquarian, the historian, the naturalist, or the sportsman, would be equally unable to pursue their respective avocations. Even the common exercise of the body (unless such as is afforded the caged lion by walking up and down his den) is in a measure denied the inhabitant of this singular place; cut off as it is from the main-land by a desart of sand not always passable, nor at any time agreeable. As the Governor was waiting to receive us, we were forced to tear ourselves away from the presence of our friend, with a violence that seemed almost to break his heart. At the house of the Sardinian Consul, we found the Captain of our vessel and all our friends in the Sardinian establishment. Don Pedro's servant, a Maltese renegado (but I believe at heart a Christian) brought me his little dog, a beautiful black

and tan terrier, which I had offered to purchase of him. It occurred to me at the moment, that Monsieur and Madame Shalliet (whose grief was uppermost in my mind) had often admired the gentle little Fanny, and I proposed to send it them as a joint present between Mr. Murray and myself. We therefore despatched the little dog, with two notes to Monsieur Shalliet, and, wishing adieu to our friends, we proceeded to the square, where we found the Governor, with many of his officers around him. On our way thither, Don Pedro requested I would speak in his favour to the Governor, which I promised to do, and in answer to Hash Hash's many civilities to us, I told him that we hoped he would be kind to Don Pedro, who being a British subject, and a humane man, it would give our government pleasure to think that he was justly treated; to which he replied, "that he would do all that lay in his power to help him to regain his situation in life," and further added, "that he would write to us, at Gibraltar, if he himself should be in want of any thing which that place could supply." He then asked us if the Captain was going on board with us, adding that he had given orders at the port that he should not be allowed to embark until we were fairly on board, for fear he should sail without us. Such is the sagacity these people are possessed of, that when they undertake anything, there is no weak point (however insignificant) that they do not provide against. We begged the Governor to send the Captain off imme-

diately, as he was dallying on shore, while our fair wind was dying away. He promised that he would, and having bowed, we left him and walked to the landing-place, accompanied by the minister, who kept off the crowd and bullied the boatmen, and we at last stepped into the barge, which conveyed us over rather an unpleasant southern swell in a short time, to our brig. Here we found the Doctor much recovered, and were now most anxious to get under weigh, but the vessel was in such a state of confusion from the packages and luggage that crowded her upper deck, that several hours of fair wind were allowed to steal away before a range could be procured for the cable. It was night before this desirable point was attained, and as, to our joy, the last heave of the windlass brought the anchor to our bows, and the flattened head-sheets and backed yards payed off her head, the moon, which until now had remained deeply obscured, behind some black clouds, burst suddenly through an opening in her gloomy shroud, shewing us the direction of the scud, which was flying fast from the north-east. Again this bright, but ill-boding vision, was shrouded from our sight by its black vapoury curtain, and left us in darkness and despair. The north-east wind, we knew but too well, was the most prevalent on this coast, and generally of great duration; we had, therefore, before us the unpleasant prospect of a long voyage. For two hours the inconstant element appeared to befriend us, but it was only to seduce us from our place of rest into an ocean

of troubled waters, already agitated by the fore-running swell of an approaching north-easterly gale,* which came on at midnight, unobserved by me, for I had crept with more haste than pleasure, at the first symptoms of a heavy over-reaching sea, into as stinking a cabin, as ever disgraced a collier, where I in vain endeavoured to drown in oblivion by hopes of the future, the memory of the past, and the consciousness of the present time.

* The swell of an approaching gale of wind frequently precedes it some days. A few years ago a most violent proof of the irritability of water was experienced at Gibraltar. It was announced by a strange noise, resembling that heard in a shell when placed to the ear; and shortly after a mountain-swell from the eastward came rolling towards the rock, against which it discharged its fury with a force unparalleled even in the heaviest gales of wind known at that place, and drawing from their anchors by its recoil from the Algerine side of the bay, the vessels anchored under shelter of the rock; during the whole of this frightful spectacle, which lasted two days, the weather remained perfectly calm, and the heavens overcast. Some imagined it the effect of an earthquake, but one capable of producing such an effect on the water, would have been felt violently on the neighbouring shore, nor is this the manner in which the sea is troubled on such occasions.

CHAPTER XX.

Observations on the Population, Revenue, Naval and Military Force of Marocco—The Natural and Artificial Strength of the Country—Description of the Various Tribes which compose the Inhabitants.

The Sultan of Marocco, who, from his present state of health, is not likely to live many years, has two sons by his Queen or Sultana. These two boys are under the age of twelve. The eldest is reported to be a very wayward child, and so it would seem, if we may judge from being told by Hadge Cassem that he could not be prevailed on to make use of the precious ointment, for the riddance of that complaint which comes, it appears, from far south, as well as far north; that he had always one hand in the honey jar, spoiling his teeth and stomach, and that he had sent the Sultan's pills, rolling about the floor for his amusement, which last frolic brought the Hadge to the Doctor, for a fresh supply, saying that he did not wish to let his father know of it for fear he should punish him, which shews that his father has not yet abandoned all interest in him. The number of good-humoured simple people who

compose the court of the Sultan, and his well-known turn for a joke, combine to pronounce him a man of mild and easy temper, fonder of riding with his Caids, and attending the operations of his gardeners, than the surveillance of his national duties, so that the kingdom though mildly, is *badly* ruled.

The gradual and perceptible decay of the whole fabric of the Maroqueen government, through every department, may be compared to that of a man in a consumption, whose whole system is withering by degrees, more from the want of the fire of life, than from any particular pain or sickness in any one part. Not but that this decay might be checked, and the system regenerated; but nothing short of a head and a hand like that of Buonaparte, formed to redeem a lost nation, could entirely effect this.

To decide upon the population of this kingdom, with any degree of probability, notwithstanding a former writer's exact numeration of it in the several towns and provinces, is wholly impracticable; no census being taken, and all inquiry on this head, being either calculated to excite suspicion, or likely to meet an extravagant bombastical answer. Suffice it therefore for those who have not numerical heads, to say that from the general view of the towns and douars of the country through which we passed, and the many deserted villages, the country was not a quarter peopled.

Of the revenue it is as impossible to judge as of the population, there being no budget.

It may be said, however, that it seems scarcely sufficient for the two important branches of the state,—the royal harems, and the army. The wise Solomon had not more partners of his heart than Sultan Muley Abrachman; not that he is reckoned a particularly amorous prince for a Moor; but that these love establishments are in a measure considered indispensably necessary to the dignity of the situation of a Sultan. The latter of these branches, the army, which is not only in the same degree necessary to the dignity, but also the safety of the throne and its occupant, is, I blush to say, not very much more numerous than the former, and certainly less expensive.

The only army of any consequence that I heard of, was that which I have before-mentioned, as defeated by the mountaineers. Besides this, the Adouais, (the body-guard of the Sultan,) of about seven hundred men, is the only body of regular troops in the country, and if I may judge of the troops in general by his Highness's life guards (horse), they must be most wretchedly equipped. Every Moor, however, is on occasions liable to be called upon to serve as militia, and from the specimens of this body which I have seen, the Arabs appear the most effective. Hardy as the untamed brute, and as strong and active; the Arab unites to the cunning of a fox, the patience of a spider, and when his revenge is awakened, or his avarice and love of blunder excited, he will lie in silent ambush whole days awaiting his enemy or his prey, and existing on a handful of dates. These are the

only combatants to be feared by an European force; but even they are not formidable, for it would be as impossible for the Sultan to make them act with unity in a body, as to induce them to live in a settled habitation; and unless interested in the war, they would drive their flocks to other pastures, and shun contention. In a conntry where the greater part of the population consists of tribes of men of any country, as are the Arabs, no great sacrifices can be expected from the emulation of patriotism. He that is born under a camel's-hair tent on the desart, has few localities around to endear him to the country of his birth, or recal to his memory the days of his youth.

The marine force of Marocco, is nearly a nonentity, a small schooner and three or four latteen boats constitute the protection of the coast. So opiniated are the Moors concerning their own power, or so ignorant of that of other countries of which they see so little, that, ridiculous as it may seem, the above-mentioned schooner and a latteen boat were sent to Lisbon two or three years back, for the purpose of securing one of the Lisbon-bound Brazilian men, of great value, which was expected shortly to arrive. The owners of her, or the consignees, in considerable alarm, applied to Lord A. Beauclerk, then commanding the English squadron in the Tagus, begging his mediation in the affair. His Lordship, with that staightforward generosity and impartiality which characterizes him, offered to do all that lay in his power, by persuasion, to deter the Moor from his intention. The schooner

was then lying in the river, ready to put to sea in search of his prize, when his Lordship invited the Grand Admiral of the Moorish fleet on board to a conference, and after having shewn him all the attention and civility due to his rank, he opened the case in question, by assuring the Moor that he had no authority or wish to interfere between him and his enemies, but that, as a common friend, he would advise him to desist from his projected enterprize. The Moor, who thought Lord Amelius alluded to our allies the Portuguese, assured him that it was not his intention to offend them in any way; but the prize he sought was one that belonged to the Brazilians, a people on the other side of the ocean; and being asked why his master had made war against that people, he replied, that "it was his custom so to do by all nations which he knew nothing about, and who did not send him a consul." His Lordship then told him that this was all very well, if such was their custom, but as his friend he would advise him to consider how he might bring *two* on his back instead of one; that the affinity was such between the Brazilians and Portuguese that they looked on each other as brothers. The poor Moor, who had never before heard of the relationship existing between these two powers, was much pleased with his Lordship's civility, and declared he would immediately return home to acquaint his master of this piece of information, which he accordingly did.

That part of the country through which we passed offers no impediment to the movement of

troops, being open even to nakedness, smooth under foot, and well supplied with streams of water. In a country like this, cavalry would be the most useful, as the soft sand of the road would prevent the rapid movements of the infantry, and make them an easier prey to the cavalry of the enemy, whose finely-trained active horses are well suited to the desultory warfare of their riders. The fortification of their towns is a mere burlesque on the term. Mogadore is the only sea-port that can boast of any strength, if such weakness can be dignified by that name. A merchant of Mogadore, who wrote an account of this part of Barbary some years ago, declares on the authority of a naval officer of distinction, that Mogadore might easily be taken by six frigates. This must have been when the guns of those fortresses were in good repair, and even then I should have asked no more than two at most; but now I should not highly estimate the naval officer's conduct who could not with one frigate make the white flag fly on its staff in ten minutes. So much for the strength of Marocco: now to its inhabitants.

The ancient Moor of Granada is a character now extinct, though their Marroqueen descendants possess many of their virtues.

The inhabitants of this kingdom may be comprised in five different classes,—viz. the Moors or white Mahometans; the Half-Castes; the Jews; the Arabs; and the Negroes.

The white Moors, and the Half-Castes (their children from black slaves) are an indolent race,

entirely abandoned to the sensual pleasures of the Harem. This passion does not of course cause the same demoralization of the mind as it does with us, whose religion forbids these excesses; but it creates an extreme lassitude of mind and body, and, from the excessive use by this people of all sorts of invigorating stimulants, many must become a prey in early life, to the indulgence of this favourite, but vicious practice. In all other respects the simplicity of their life and manners, and the frugality of their fare, forms a striking contrast with their otherwise sensual habits.

The Moors are decidedly a very handsome and finely proportioned people. With height of figure they possess small-boned limbs, and remarkably delicately shaped hands and feet. As a proof of the former, I have examined numbers of their sword hands, which weapons being made in a particular manner to fit the hands, are very much too small for the admission of an English *fist*; yet, like the blood-horse, fineness of make does not stamp them as devoid of strength.

Wine and spirits are little used by the Moors, and the only intoxicating article of which they partake is the hemp-seed* and flower, which they

* I have often questioned the smokers of hemp-seed as to the effect of it, and received for answer, that upon having finished the third pipe, the mind becomes greatly exhilarated, and the individual imagines himself the Sultan, the acme of course of Moorish ideas of happiness; that afterwards a pleasing sleep closes this dream of delight, which in a short time passes off with no other unpleasant effects than the awakening from the pleasing creations of imagination, to a sense of the unpleasant reality.

smoke as an opiate, in pipes as small as thimbles, but this is generally confined to the lower classes. Tea is the favourite beverage, in which they indulge at all hours of the day.

The only remains of that highly civilized state of society, renowned in the history of the Abencerrages, is the polite delicate breeding, observable in all the manners and actions of the higher orders, who carry their sense of politeness even to a trifling degree, with a seriousness and dignity of manner and action, which convinces you that it is their desire to please you, while, what we envy and affect to despise in the French, is, however pleasing at times, often repulsive to our feelings of sincerity, by the careless cold-hearted manner that commonly accompanies it. I should therefore decidedly pronounce a well-bred Moor, as the most finished man of any nation I have ever seen. The eastern Mahomedan has much of this manner, but his insufferable pride often gets the better of it. In his person and dress, the Moor of these kingdoms is remarkable for his cleanliness; his constant ablutions as a good musselman, (which the Marroqueen Moor generally is), added to the luxury of the bath in a warm climate, tend to encourage his cleanly habits. The practice of eating with the fingers, upon a little consideration, will be found to be far from dirty or repulsive, when we reflect how scrupulously careful are these people, to avoid polluting their right hands by any unclean purposes, and the eight or nine times a day that they wash them. The hand is as capable

of purification by water and soap, as the fork or spoon by sand and whitening. Custom is the illiberal arbiter of taste.

Mildness of temper is general among all classes, and when they do quarrel, which is seldom, the storm is loud and furious, but soon exhausts itself in vociferation.

The Half Castes, or the offspring of the black concubines, are a hardier race of men then the white Moors, and much more numerous. Their colour is a clear bronze, and to this they often conjoin the bold prominent outline of the eastern features of their fathers.

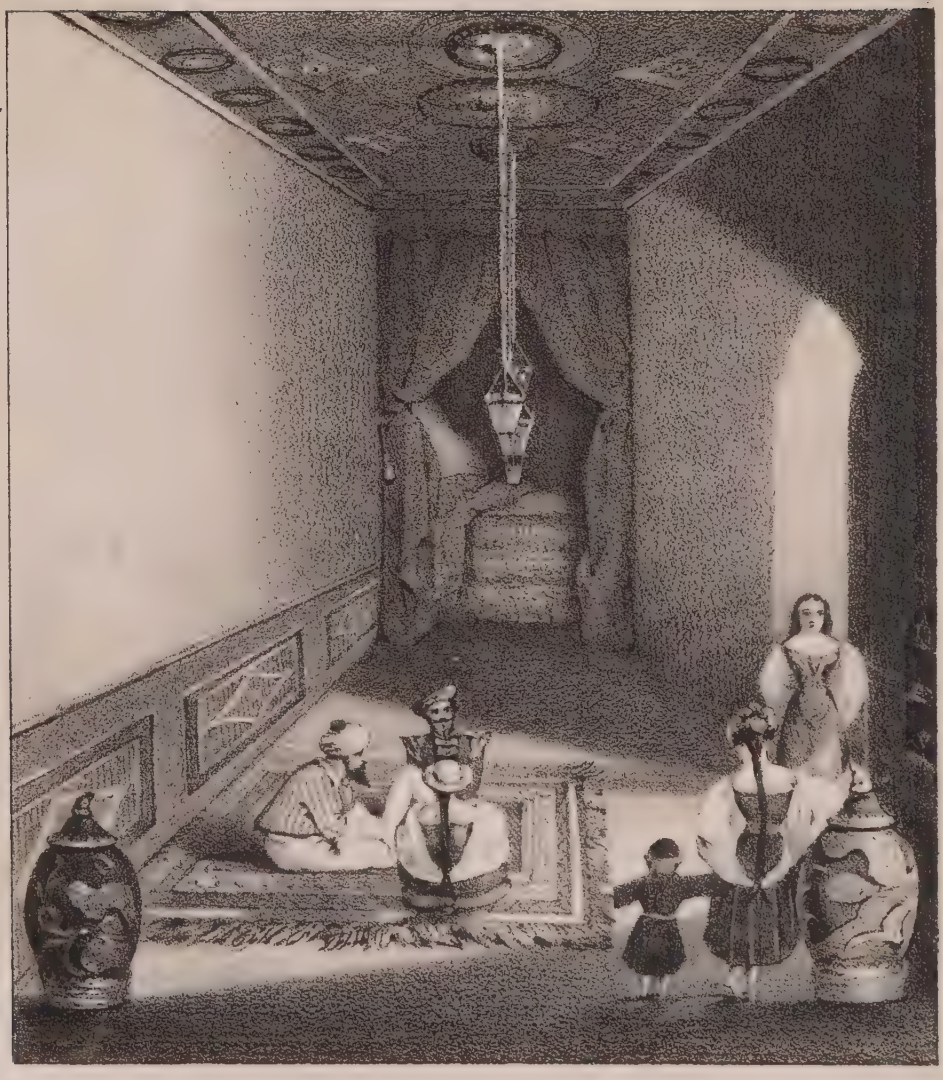
CHAPTER XIX.

The Jews.—The Arabs.—The Negroes.—Commercial Resources of the Country, &c. &c.—Arrival at Gibraltar.

The Jews, I should imagine, form at least the third part of the population of the towns in this country. The successive Sultans who have ruled over these dominions, have found it their interest to protect the lives and property of Israel's fated race, and to encourage their desire for trade, by which policy they are enabled by more means than *fair taxation,* to raise large sums of money upon any emergency; but with the cunning of a rat-catcher, (who never destroys his own trade) they take care not to disable their victims by these repeated *loans,* as they are called. A very little, however, suffices to set a Jew up again in business, so persevering is his pursuit of that wealth which he knows but conduces in the end to purchase him the bastinado. In all the towns of the kingdom, except Tangiers, the Jews are allotted a separate quarter from the Moors, at the gate of which a Caid is placed, with authority to prevent

the entrance of their Moorish brethren, and at night the gate is closed, and the keys taken to the house of the governor. No considerations of poverty seems ever to prevent marriage amongst them, though riches are generally matched to the same, by affiancing the children at an early age. This practice of affiancing is productive of much happiness between the married pair in after life, who from childhood, have learned to humour each others foibles, and it also checks that romantic passion of love, so cherished in enlightened countries, where the fair one's determination to choose for herself, but too often entails miserable consequences on herself and her friends; but such is the effect of a society where art has superseded nature, where many a beautiful young girl languishes through the ripeness of her youth, in vain endeavours to find the beau ideal of her circulating library education, and is finally obliged either to surrender her charms at the instigation of mama into the hands of a Midas with the ears of "an ass, an ass" or eke out her uninteresting existence in the mal-appropriation of her sex's ornament—affection, which finding no return from the bosom of her first idol, man, vents itself in the care of pug-dogs and parrots.

Far different is it amongst those of whom I speak, where each young heart finds its responsive beat in the bosom it has learned to think its own, nor destroys the present joy by anticipating, however poor, the prolific consequences of the future. By this state of things, however, the



G Beaudelet, pinxt

The Interior of an opulent Jew's House.

Printed by Engelmann, Graf & Comp. in Mülhausen

poorer classes remain poor, while the richer increase their wealth in the opposite ratio.

Amonst the higher classes of the Jews who can afford to build large houses, it is customary for all branches of the family to live together: thus you may see five and six generations in the same tenement, all looking up to the father of the whole as a patriarch, and treating him with great respect and kindness. This sight, I must say, is very gratifying. The Jews in this country are a very fair specimen of objection to that argument which has often been advanced to prove that the human race degenerates by breeding *in-and-in* (if the sportsman's term may be allowed me for want of one expressive of the same signification, applicable to man.) It is impossible to find a finer race of men, or a more angelic one of females, than are these people. The Jewish male children are in their infancy exquisitely beautiful, and it astonishes a stranger not a little, when surrounded by what might pass for angels and cherubim, he looks in vain for a handsome face amongst the grown-up males. This I attribute to the constant debasement of their minds, in which the thoughts of servility, avarice, deceit, and the meanest subtlety, are daily gaining the ascendancy over the more radiant virtues of nature, visible in the jocund open countenance of extreme youth. The Jewish boy has hardly turned his seventh year, when he is taken in hand by the elder brethren, and taught "to make the worse appear the better bargain." From this moment, so strong are their passions, the child

becomes ugly. This will be the easier imagined when we consider the debasement to which they are subject even from the children of a true believer. I have seen a little fellow of six years old, with a troop of fat toddlings of only three and four, teaching their young ideas to throw stones at a Jew, and one little urchin would with the greatest coolness, waddle up to the man and literally spit upon his "Jewish gaberdine." To all this the Jew is obliged to submit; it would be more than his life was worth to offer to strike a Mahomedan. But such, and ten times as much will Moses endure for the sake of cheating his persecutor at some future period, and this is, besides its individual advantage, the sweetest revenge of a Jew.* Notwithstanding these black

* The character of Shylock, however finely drawn by the immortal bard, is nevertheless a very unjust representation of a Jew. Deadly revenge is not concomitant with those feelings of patience under suffering and mild forgiveness of injuries, which are necessary to the advancement of those who, from early life, are taught to sacrifice their deepest feelings to the attainment of the golden end of their wishes. Shylock's delight at the intelligence of the merchant's losses, would have been more natural had they only been the means of making Antonio a bankrupt, by the seizure of the residue of his property for the payment of the bond, or if the author was determined to make the Jew a revengeful character, he might have done so, by representing his exasperation at his losses, as the incentive to his headlong passion; but in making him refuse the multiplied offers of Antonio's friend, he drops the character of the Jew, and describes that mad self-destroying revenge, which was both inconsistent with the Jewish good sense, and the civilization of the times. But a vulgar and popular prejudice of the age, suggested the exaggerated character on which our bard has prostituted his finest dramatic powers.

spots on the Jewish character, I must confess that I was much struck by the domestic virtues of this extraordinary race, who live in the most social manner amongst themselves, surrounded by their families, cheerfully striving to assist each other in their advance in life, and uniting to prevent their mutual disgrace. To such a length do they carry this mutual assistance, that they do not hesitate cheating, or even false swearing for each other, even for trifles.*

Amongst other extraordinary religious customs, is that of annually selecting a young virgin from amongst them, and enclosing her for several hours in a wooden box, where she awaits the coming of the Holy Ghost; hoping to be the mother of their long expected Messiah. During this time, however, she is carefully watched for fear that her lively imagination might tempt her to satisfy the the hopes of the Jewish tribe at the expense of her reputation. Thus, we see to what a pitch of ridiculous and disgusting credulity religious superstition is capable of conducting the minds of men. The marriages of their women consist in the meeting of all the friends at the house of the bride, where refreshments are provided for the

* A Jew was convicted of perjury at Gibraltar, in his evidence against another Jew, whom he endeavoured to screen, and was condemned to the pillory. The Jewish community, to avoid what seemed a disgrace to the whole body, entered into a subscription, and many thousand dollars were offered to Lord Chatham for the Jew's pardon; and strange to say, they seemed greatly surprised that their endeavours were laughed at, and that the Jew was placed in the pillory.

company. Towards night, the bride is taken as wife and recognized as such before witnesses, by her intended husband. She is then taken away, and (by a number of matrons whose scrutiny she undergoes) she is then complety shaved of her beautiful tresses, for which a wig is substituted. The nails of her hands and toes are then touched with henna, and her eyelids painted black. Thus, having taken the bath, she is perfumed, and conveyed to the marriage bed. The bridegroom only remains with her until the final consummation of the marriage, at the end of which time barbarous proofs of the girl's late immaculate state are exhibited to a council of relations and friends, anxiously awaiting this confirmation of the contract; which may be dissolved at the pleasure of the bridegroom, failing the above proofs. Expedients of art, however, are (as may be imagined) seldom wanting to satisfy the over confident bridegroom, and deceive the friends, when nature or libertinism deny the expected evidence. During the period of nine days, the husband is denied all further intercourse with his bride, who is daily seated on a gorgeous bed or couch, with an overhanging canopy, dressed out in all the gold and jewels of her ancestors, while visitors keep pouring in, and amusing themselves by kissing the bride, and partaking of the marriage feast. The dance on these occasions, I have already given a description of. At the end of the nine days, the almost exhausted bride is taken to

the house of her husband, and so closes the ceremony.

To describe the Arab part of the population of Marocco, would only occupy the time of my reader in the perusal of what he must have read in a thousand other Journals of African travels, for an Arab is the same in all parts of the world; whether encamped on the desart, in expectation of a passing caravan, or under a green hedge by the roadside in England, awaiting the gloom of night to replenish his kettle from a neighbouring henroost, and, passing the interregnum in laudable endeavours to increase the population of the country, by administering to credulous maid-servants the desired issue of fate; a husband, ten children, and a legacy. Unfortunately, however, for the fated parties and the country, the two former blessings come generally unattended by the third. It would indeed be desirable that these dark hedge dispensers of futurity were prevented from their truly destructive practices, equally dangerous to the hen-roost and the maiden's heart. Many a tender young *chicken* has fallen a victim to their arts. But could this apparently desirable end be attained, it is doubtful whether the naturally superstitious mind of woman would not find a substitute for the interpretation of her wishes.

Without pretending to argue phisiologically the disputed question concerning the probability of the origin of the Negro race of Africa, I shall merely state, what to me, as an unsophisticated

observer, has appeared worthy notice on this subject.

I have often remarked, that the general feature of a picture is easier detected by a child than a connoisseur. If this simile prove applicable to my natural view of the present phenomenon, I shall feel happy in having been useful to those who argue that the Negroes are a specific race, and if my conclusions prove false, I shall feel equally proud, if the opposite party can turn them to its advantage, in deciding so interesting a question. It has been admitted by those who contend that the two races are sprung from the same origin, that the heat of the sun could never have been the means of altering the human complexion from white to black. The Moors of Marocco are a very fair specimen of the truth of this admission. The hundreds of years they have resided in this country seems to have caused no change in their colour towards the black shade, beyond the embrowned complexion produced upon the cuticle by the momentary action of the sun's rays. Now this admission appears to me as tending rather to prove that the Black is a specific race; for if we are deprived of this method of accounting for the alteration of white to black, and substitue the theory of transmission of altered shape and colour by co-operating propagation, we may as well believe the original stock to have been black as white.

If on the contrary we admit the probability of the blacks being a specific race, formed for the

intensity of tropical heat, the various intervening shades of colour between the two extremes, are easily accounted for by the mixing of the two specific races; and though white men are found in tropical climates, certain it is, (independent of the thick and coloured *rete mucosum* of the black man), that no race of human beings seems so calculated to undergo the heat of their ardent sun as the Negroes of Africa. The white Moor appears rather to exist than to thrive in the heated atmosphere of his climate; while the Negro literally revels in the burning rays of the sun, basking whole hours under its mid-day influence. The skin of the former suffers evidently from continual exposure to the sun; thus their legs, bare from below the knee to the slipper, assume a dry, tightened, and scorbutic appearance: but far different is it with the smooth polished cuticle of the Negro, from the firm but elastic surface of which a gentle perspiration is constantly exuding, and thus protecting it from being scorched. Nor do the tenderer parts even of the female, suffer more from nakedness, than the harder frame of the male sex: neither do the Negroes yield to that lassitude which more or less affects all white men in hot climates; on the contrary, I think that a black man will work harder in the hot than in the cool weather. In fact, one of the most striking views of the subject, is that which voluntarily presents itself to the eye of the traveller in these countries, who cannot but observe what an undeniable claim the Negro has to the title of, the indigenous

lord of the soil, while his white ruler seems to pay dearly indeed for his usurpation.

The resources of commerce in this kingdom, are abundant and prolific. Corn and cattle are the chief commodities, and for the growth of the one, and the breeding of the other, the country seems singularly adapted. It is said that the plains of Ducalla alone, are capable of producing in one year as much corn, as the United Kingdoms of Great Britain. And the extensive plains which characterise this country, and through which slimy rivers are found in all directions sluggishly meandering and enriching the neighbouring lands by their Nilous quality, present, to the breeder's eye, "the potentiality of growing rich beyond the dreams of avarice." Of the former of these sources of wealth, I can vouch, from the immense crops of corn that overstocked the market, during the harvest of the year I left Mogadore. I was in the habit of purchasing nearly a bushel of corn for my partridges, at one shilling English, allowing at the same time for being cheated of part by my Jewish servant, who bought it. I was told by many, that, such was the profusion of this very superior grain of its kind, that it did not, in many instances, repay the labour of harvesting. The principal articles of foreign export, are hides, gums, bee's-wax, and bitter-almonds. A small quantity of ostrich feathers, are now and then supplied from the southern provinces; and gold, of the first quality, from Tombuctoo, forms no inconsiderable part of the profit of the merchants

resident in the country; whilst silver, which is not allowed to be exported, is a contraband business, which from its enormous profits, drowns all other considerations of fair traffic, and is carried on to a great extent by the Jews of the country.

Besides these objects of commerce, a thousand others lie scattered over the face of the earth, or remained buried in its bowels. We were told while at Marocco, that the Atlas abounded in mines of silver, but I could gather no correct information concerning this. Mr. Macnean, however, assured me, that copper mines were there abundant, and that he had often seen specimens of the ore. Honey, of which there is such an abundance, is not exported. It possesses the richest natural flavour, but is rendered nearly unpalatable by the dead bees and wax with which it is clogged. The shebbel and tasagalt are two species of fish, which, if properly cured, would be delicious additions to European luxury; but they prepare them with oil, and dry them in the sun, thus rendering them too rich a food for any but their own stomachs. A vast variety of fruit, of which dates and oranges are the only exports, is to be seen in all parts of the kingdom. The grape flourishes, but is only planted for the purpose of eating, and a small consumption by the Jews, in the shape of wine and spirits.

As it was my misfortune to have visited this country during the hottest months of the year, I can say little concerning the botanical productions of its soil; for during my residence there, I hardly

observed a single flower: but that in the milder seasons, the researches of the botanist would be amply repaid, is obvious, from the superior quantity and flavour of the honey.

The breed of horses, once so esteemed, under the name of Barbs, brought by the Moors into Spain, is greatly deteriorated by entire neglect in their breeding; the Sultan himself has very few worthy observation. Out of forty or fifty brood mares fetlocked in the court near our house, I only saw one that particularly struck me; it was milk white, small, but of great strength and fine proportious, with a head that in England we have no idea of, enlivened by the look of mettle and gentle intelligence in a pair of coal-black eyes of great size. The white and the ash colour with black manes and tails, are decidedly the finest specimens of the barb blood. The most beautiful horses in the country, belong to the chiefs of Arab douars, but nevertheless, the mass, though poor and meagre-looking, are very active and capable of enduring great fatigue and hard fare.

A stable is an article of luxury almost entirely unknown in Barbary. Even the Sultan's horses stand exposed to all the vicissitudes of weather, throughout the year, fetlocked around the palace walls, with the bare earth for their bed, and heaven their canopy, and yet they maintain their sleek appearance. The head, neck, and forehand, are the parts which are most distinguishable in the Moorish horses, and the length, gloss, and softness (resembliug fine silk) of their manes

and tails, adds much to the beauty of these parts. The hind quarters are generally *goose-rumped*, which shape I attribute to the Moslem custom of riding with powerful bits, with which they delight in shewing the power they have over their horses by reining them up at full gallop; which brings them at once on their haunches. Thus the transmission of a form altered by this violent and unnatural constraint of the hinder quarters, may have produced a race of goose-rumped horses. With due submission to the physiologist, who may, perhaps, advance anatomical objections to this supposition, I merely submit it, as to me it appears probable. However much we may ridicule the powerful bit of these horsemen, and their unnatural use of it, I cannot but agree with them that the laugh is on their side. They say that we are not the masters of our horses, who run away with us on all occasions, and that we cannot prevent them from precipitating us over a cliff, or headlong into a river. Nothing can be more just than this observation. The fact is, that we have given ourselves the credit, from the time when mounted on a Shetland pony, to the more exalted age of the chase, for being excellent horsemen; understanding entirely the management of these animals, because, forsooth, we get across the country at a *certain pace*. All other good qualities in horses are sacrificed to, and all bad ones overlooked for, the desirable end, rapidity of motion. The finest trained Arab, or German horse, would not gain grace in the eyes

of a sporting character, (all Englishmen partaking more or less of this mania) when placed in competition with the kicking, biting, *tumble-down hack*, that by skilful management of the *divine art of conducting*, is propelled forward at the rate of 15 miles in the hour. Thus in our eagerness to gratify our national restlessness, "Push on, keep moving," we entirely neglect the more useful and elegant arts of horse-training. The little affection we display for our horses, observable in all ranks, from the peer to the horse-jockey (terms which are often synonymous) conduces to the neglect of their characters. There is no horse in England that has not his price. Under such perpetual change of masters, (each possessing different tempers and tastes) the poor horse (with us) can hardly be expected to become an accomplished one; while, on the contrary, the Arab will take no money for the animal which has shared his fortunes, and often his bread, and which, from constant attention and kind treatment, becomes to him, what a dog is to a European. The contrast between an Arab and an Englishman's idea and management of a horse, is finely exemplified in their respective early propensities for this species of amusement. The English boy sets himself a-straddle on a broom-stick, provided with a bridle, and, with the most thorough contempt for the wooden mouth of his horse, he early learns the various arts of pulling, jerking, and sawing, which he afterwards displays in his useless endeavours to stop his runaway *bit of blood*, with a

snaffle, or incompetent bit. The Arab child (disdaining the ewe-necked stick) procures the semicircular half of an iron hoop, to one end of which he attaches a bridle, which by the elasticity of the metal causes that end of the semi-hoop to represent the finely arched crest of the horse of that country, and teaches him to have a light hand, afterwards so necessary with the powerful bit; while the other end being gently compressed against the ground, springs and bounds under the partial weight of the rider. It is wonderful with what an air of grave consequence and perfect imitation of their elders these little children "ride a cock-horse." The barbarous and unnecessary practice of mutilation is forbidden by the Mahometan law. I say unnecessary, because I have never witnessed any inconvenience arising from the contrary, sufficient to authorise a practice not only cruel, but impolitic, as no one can deny that it deprives the animal of the greater part of his strength, hardiness, and beauty, and subjects him to incalculable evils in after life, not known in countries where the practice is forbidden. Horses, by proper treatment, will learn like men to conduct themselves under all circumstances of congregation. It is worthy remark, that amongst the many horses I have seen in Barbary, I never could discover a broken knee, and was told that horses were rarely known to fall, owing in part, I suppose, to the strength of bit, which sets them upon their haunches, and is so powerful as to admit of the management of the hottest steed, even

by a child. The elegant ease with which these people manage their horses, and the lightness of their hand upon the bridle, adds a charm to horsemanship unknown to those who have not seen it. The practice of speaking to them, places those animals nearly on a footing with their biped masters. The smallest word serves to tranquillize or set them in flame. I have seen a horse tremble violently at the angry exclamation of his master: and the hah! hah! strongly aspirated, which is made use of on setting off at a Lab el Barode is sufficient to put him instantly into a gallop.

Mules are the most useful animals in Marocco, equally adapted as they are for riding as well as burthen. The smoothness and rapidity of their walk, renders them more agreeable for a journey than the horse, and, from the Sultan downwards, no great man travels long journeys by any other means. A good mule is valued at a higher price than a horse. The bright chesnut with a black cross is reckoned the best bred; most of the Sultan's are of this colour; of their capability of enduring fatigue, I have already given ample proofs.

Of the birds of the country which differed from those of Europe generally, are the following: the eagle or vulture, a bird of fourteen-feet spread in the wing. The northern part of the kingdom abounds with them. I have seen them come often to Gibraltar from Apes Hill on the other side of the straits, in a flight of thirty or forty at a time; and on one occasion, I succeeded in approaching within thirty yards of two or three, and notwith-

standing the weight of duck shot, with which my gun was loaded, I was unable to do further injury, than cutting away a few feathers. The one I fired at hardly quickened his flight, so unconscious did he seem of my destructive intentions. Of the hawk variety, there are a great number. I killed a small one at Tetuan, of nearly a pure white, with a black pupil to the eye, and a blood red iris: I think I never beheld so piercing an eye. Owls are to be seen in great variety, from the large horned one standing two feet and a half high, to that of four inches. The white heron is the most delicate and beautiful bird I have ever seen; it stands about eighteen inches high, has black legs, and a soft plumage of snowy white; along the centre of the back are to be found a few long grey feathers, resembling hair; the pupil of the eye is black with a crome yellow iris: I am particular in the description of this bird as there seems to have been some difference of opinion, as to its being a heron or a *garde bœuf*. They are much cherished by the inhabitants of this country, partly, I suppose, from their resemblance to the sacred stork family, and partly owing to their feeding on grubs. At Tetuan, I have seen numbers of these elegant birds at a time, following, unheeded by mischievous boys, within a few feet of the plough. Barn door fowls could not have been tamer. I shot one of them in our garden at Marocco, but I had no means of preserving it. The Tibib, so called from the sound of its note, is the most amiable fearless little companion of man.

It builds in the houses. It is about the size and shape of a chaffinch ; of an auburn brown plumage ; with the most cheerful clear-toned chirp of any bird I know. It is, I believe, not to be found north of Marocco, and dies in confinement.

As it seems to have been the intention of our ministry to cultivate a closer commercial intercourse with the kingdom of Marocco, (at least if I may judge by the late appointment of a Vice-consul to Tangiers, where Mr. Douglass the Consul General was already residing) I shall here endeavour to show how the three Consulate appointments then in that country, had the honour of protecting one British commercial house. Mogadore was formerly a port of considerable commerce, as I have before stated, receiving from many nations their manufactures for the rich produce of the country ; and now, it can only boast of one resident merchant. I shall therefore point out the reason of this decline of trade, in hopes of assisting the endeavours of the present authorities, to establish on a firmer basis, what has of late been suffered to fall to ruin.

In the first place then, according to the rules of fair trade, some standing tariff, or custom-house duty, ought to be established in all countries, that the trader may know, when he sails to a foreign port, what will be his profits upon the goods he proposes bearing back to his country from that port. That there *was* such a tariff is evident by an article in the last treaty between England and Marocco, which particularly states

that the Consuls are called upon to resist all infringements upon the regularly established tariff. If there be no stated agreement of this nature between the two countries, the interests of commerce have been neglected; and if there be one, it certainly has not been protected from the encroachments of the Sultan's arbitrary and short-sighted policy. Thus, we find the duties at present in this country, entirely regulated by the capricious will of the Sultan, who, like all barbarians, thinks that "a bird in the hand is worth two in a bush," even if they are to be caught hereafter. The duty upon wax, for instance, which is always a necessary article in Roman Catholic countries, is ten Spanish dollars to the quintal; and all other duties are fluctuating according to the demand for the produce. The old story of the King and the Egg, is very applicable to the Sultan's system of imposing these duties; the more rare becomes the arrival of a vessel in his ports, the higher he raises the duty. The instant a merchantman has anchored at Mogadore, the Governor despatches a courier to the Sultan with the bill of lading, who "lays it on thick," by doubling the duties upon both imports and exports. As it may be conceived, this abominable system, unresisted by the Consuls of different nations, has succeeded partly in paralizing the trade of the country, and gradually the merchants, one by one, have dropped away, until the protectors of commerce are alone left to convince the Sultan of their country's disposition to be on

amicable terms with him; else might they chance to see their traders pillaged, as I have before shewn, by his Highness's marine. It will be asked, how then has one commercial house remained in the country under such an oppressive system? It must be answered that until lately this house was invested with the Consular dignity, which protected it in its trade; but it does not require the keenest perception to observe that it ill became the interest of that establishment as a mercantile one, to enforce strictly the Consular protection of those rights of trade which would not fail to create it competitors, while the reverse secured to that establishment a complete monopoly. Under such auspices, who can wonder that trade has not flourished in Barbary? In the second place the Sultan, finding it easier to raise large sums with expediency from the Jewish community, over whom his absolute power gives him this authority, has therefore encouraged these people to trade, by means which have been as successful to them, as destructive to the merchants of other nations. Thus, while he raises the duty on the foreign merchants' goods, he lowers it on those of the Jews, who by this means undersell and ruin their competitors. But while he is thus apparently indulgent to the Jews, he is, in reality, only inducing them to slip their heads into a noose, which he afterwards tightens according to his pleasure. This he effects by calling the reduction of duty towards these people, a *loan;* so that, after the Jew is well in debt, he calls upon

him for payment, and with this "fair show of justice," squeezes him out of his golden store, taking care, at the same time, not to play the part of him who killed his gold-producing goose, by leaving him enough to commence business again, by reducing three times lower the duties on those articles which the Jew afterwards retails at a price equivalent to the higher ones. This was the unfortunate case of Don Pedro, the Maltese, who having been unanimously recommended to the favour of the Sultan by the Moors themselves, for his humanity to the starving multitude during the famine, repaired to Marocco, to conciliate the kind will of his Highness, laden with presents, the value of which was almost all he possessed in the world. Upon arriving there, he was kindly received by the Sultan, who expressed his everlasting obligation to him for saving the lives of his subjects during the late famine, and offered to set him up in trade, by allowing him the beforementioned privilege of reduced duties. Thus enticed, Don Pedro recommenced business, but on a small cargo arriving during our residence at Mogadore, the Sultan suddenly pounced upon it, under the plea of debt incurred by the reduced duties. The Maltese, however conscious he was of this custom by the Jews, had no idea that its rigour was to be extended to him, to whom the privilege had been granted in return for his presents and his humanity.

Don Pedro was, therefore, by this most unfair treatment, a ruined man when I left Mogadore; and

I sincerely hope that the Consul General will find it within the limits of his duty, to rescue this unfortunate and ill-treated man from his present situation, into which he has been unfairly enticed and inveigled. I cannot but suppose, that this piece of cunning in his Highness's government, is an illegal act in the eyes of good sense and the laws of nations, and requires the interference of consular authority. The unfortunate object for whom I contend, has, I know, enemies at Mogadore; but let not these prejudice the ears of our authorities: let them rather go to the Moors, to ascertain his character. When a Mahometan speaks in high terms of an unbeliever, depend upon it that he is deserving of the praise. But whatever may have been Don Pedro's conduct, in other points (though I cannot say I could ever clearly find fault in him) he is a British subject, and has a right to call upon the Consul of those kingdoms for protection from injury, providing the Sultan's *ruse* is illegal. His faults do not deprive him of his privileges as a subject.

Besides the illegal proceedings of the Sultan above-mentioned, there is another equally arbitrary, to which, strange to say, the late Viceconsul in his semi-mercantile character, submitted in common with the Jewish merchants of the country. This is an invitation (properly interpreted an order) from the Sultan, requesting the presence (for which read *presents*) of all the merchants, at his palace at Marocco or elsewhere. To go there without a golden offer, would be, to

be refused admittance to his Highness, and afterwards the benefit of trade. We therefore cannot wonder at a poor helpless man complying with so arbitrary a measure of extortion; but surely there can be no excuse for an opulent merchant armed with the Consular dignity of Great Britain, in submitting to such a shameless degradation. It is well indeed that the new alteration concerning the Consuls, will prevent for the future a recurrence of such behaviour.*

By these means has the commerce of the country either died away, fallen into the hands of the Jews, or passed southward to the French colonies; and our commercial interest, and the dignity of our name, are gradually decaying, in a land abounding in useful productions, and peopled by a race well-disposed to prefer us to all other nations.

Having shewn the evil, let me attempt to point out the remedy.

It is obvious to all who consider the peculiar situation of Gibraltar, and the extreme jealousy of all other nations at our holding that key to the Mediterranean, that it is of the most vital importance to its safe keeping, that we should command the supplies of the opposite coast, for the maintenance of our garrison. This we at present do by treaty; the Sultan therein being bound to supply us with bullocks at so much per head, and in such number as there stated. But we have seen, that during a siege, the Spanish government have been

* It has been determined, that, in future, no Consul shall be permitted to trade.

able to cut in two this binding with a golden sword; and such again may be the case by other nations, poor Spain's golden dreams being over: would it not therefore be politic to prevent a defection which might one day prove fatal to our garrison, at that invaluable fortress? It might well be said that one of the most precious stones in the crown of England, is the rock of Gibraltar.

Too little familiarity is as apt to breed contempt as too much; and we should therefore surely endeavour to rescue our name from almost oblivion in the empire of Marocco. This can only be done by a stern uncomplying line of policy: let a Mahometan imagine that he has outwitted you, and he will think lightly of you. The anecdote I have already told, of the consternation of the country at the arrival of two paltry Columbian cruizers off Mogadore, one of which fired a gun, will plainly show how unaccustomed is such a sight, and the effect it produces. I should thence be led to recommend that outward and homeward bound men of war of the Indian stations, be ordered occasionally to call at Mogadore on their way, under any paltry excuse of fresh beef or water, and that the same be done at Tangiers, by Mediterranean cruizers; this would give the most entire support to the exertions of Consuls, who then might be able, by the terror of our name, and the justness of our proceedings, to enforce their arguments, and reinstate our sinking trade; but there must be no sleeping over the cause: a firm, determined, just, and open line of policy, is

that which will succeed with the Moors. Consider the danger of the gradual decay of this kingdom, and its alluring richness, which will one day tempt an over-populous country to seize on it as a colony, which, in its present state, would be far from difficult. On the other hand, a proper degree of firmness and exertion on our part, would succeed in organizing this paralized nation; and with its return of health, will come strength and vigour to protect itself, whilst it will be always its policy to cultivate our alliance. Besides the terror of our name, we possess the advantage of holding their depot of trade, Gibraltar—from whence they receive tea, sugar, cloth, &c. and it were easy for us to show them, by retort on their merchants, that they must establish a fair basis of trade with ours. I have been thus circumstantial, because I know of no other reason of the late appointment of a Vice-consul to Tangiers, where the Consul General was already residing, except that it was the intention of our Ministry, to have made an exertion towards re-opening the almost closed ports of trade, with the Moors of Marocco. This is only *my* surmise, which it will be politic, at least, in them to own as *their* intention.

There is yet another measure that I am induced to recommend to the notice of authorities, which, from my observation, I know to be absolutely necessary for the correct intercourse between our Consuls and the Sultan. This is the appointment of a European interpreter, without whom,

provided the Consuls are not themselves proficient in the Arabic language, all their negociations must prove nugatory. No subject of his Highness, whether Moor or Jew (and the latter are generally the medium of communication) will dare to interpret literally the words of his employer, provided they be disagreeable to the Sultan, besides the advantage they will take of you, by turning your negociations to their profit, or, sacrificing your interests for a bribe from the other party. Thus, our interpreter told us, that the Sultan had made him a present, as remuneration for his services, of those very articles supplied us for our sea-stock. Luckily however, the Sultan, accustomed to deal with Jews, wrote to the Governor of Mogadore, ordering him to supply us with these articles as our sea-stock, and discovered the villany of the interpreter. To avoid then, this evil, the only alternative is the appointment of a Christian interpreter,* with such an independant salary as is likely to make it worth his while to resist bribery, for fear of the loss of his situation, if discovered. Being a Christian, he will, if not subject to bribery, at all events, protect your interests, rather than those of the Moors or Jews; while a Jewish interpreter, from notions of interest or fear, will always side with the Moor, if the subject of discussion be indifferent to his own tribe. The residence of such an interpreter as I have recommended, would naturally be at Mogadore, that place being near the capital, whereas Tangiers, the

* Vide Appendix D.

place of residence of the Consul General, is too distant from Marocco to admit of any frequency of negociation, while the orders of the Consul General might be transmitted to the Vice Consul at Mogadore, who would repair thence to the capital accompanied by the interpreter. As such an interpreter will be always difficult to find, I am tempted to recommend to the notice of the Consul General, as an object of charity, as well as utility, the before-mentioned Don Pedro; whose unfortunate circumstances; his perfect knowledge of the Arabic; his acquaintance with the Mahometan character, and that of the Sultan's ministers; added to his own reputation even amongst the sons of the Crescent; point him out as one, the appointment of whom to this office by the Consul General, would be as politic as humane.

Though it may perhaps be deemed inconsistent with the plan of a journal, to enter into a speculative political disquisition, I cannot here conclude my slight survey of the Maroqueen empire, without first adverting to a subject, which, as it appears to me, is vitally connected with British interests in Africa, and the safety of our much envied and desired colony and garrison at Gibraltar.

I need hardly advance any argument to prove how jealous are the other nations of Europe of our possession of this valuable key to the Mediterranean, and how anxious they must feel to wrest from the favourite sons of Neptune this jewel of his dominions.

As long as British discipline, and the vigilance of such Governors as the Earl of Chatham and

Sir George Don, continue to preside over the safeguard of Gibraltar, neither force, fraud nor surprise are likely ever to cause the capitulation of that almost impregnable fortress. The remaining enemy to be feared is, therefore, starvation, which we have seen, did, on a former occasion, reduce the garrison to great privations, notwithstanding the utmost endeavours of our cruizers to prevent the supplies from Barbary being cut off by the enemy. Against this evil it has always been our aim, as it certainly is our interest, to guard ourselves, by uniting ourselves in the strongest bonds of alliance with the Moors; and for the double purpose of enriching them and providing ourselves with supplies, an article was inserted in our treaty of alliance with the Sultan, binding him to provide us with so many head of cattle a year, at thirty dollars a head, export duty, which, considering that the original cost of the animal is only half that sum, is no inconsiderable profit to his Highness's revenue. But valuable as this article of the treaty may be to the Sultan, we have seen how, during a siege, that Spanish dollars have proved a weightier argument than the parchment of our treaty; nor is it to be wondered at, that, in so poor a nation, inhabited by a people of a different religion from ours, the golden rule should be the lesson they are most desirous to learn. To speak in the Moorish style, his Highness's sublime ears are in his purse, ever open to the silver tones of the Christian dogs, but closed to their barking. Un-

der these circumstances it surely should be our study to impress upon the minds of our Moorish allies the necessity of our friendship before that of any other nation, in a manner that would convince them that we are their natural ally in the warmest sense of the word. There are only two means by which this could be effected. The one by the methods I have before suggested, the resuscitation of the declining trade of the Empire, by some new arrangement, by which our merchants might obtain a firm basis of trade, and by such an alteration in its revenues, as would consequently ensue, the country, would not only be enabled to defend itself from intruders, but also be convinced of the utility of an alliance with another people, between whom and it there exists a natural league of dependance and assistance.

The other method to which I am now to allude, is the obtaining some territorial footing on the shores of Barbary.

This latter is indeed a subject as delicate to treat on as difficult to put in practice, but it yet does not appear to me to be wholly impracticable, even without departing in the smallest degree from the straight road of good faith and honour.

To establish the necessity of speedily pursuing the one or the other of the above courses, I have already shewn, besides the almost defenceless and decaying state of the Maroqueen Empire, that its amazing richness is such, that it must ultimately (and that period is not far distant) fall a

sacrifice to the cupidity of some shark whose rule is expediency, or become the colony of some over populous country, on the principle of Agrarian law.*

Upon this supposition then, would it not be politic as regards ourselves, and kind as regards our ally, to prevent, by timely precaution, a circumstance prejudicial to us both?

It will be asked what arguments can be used, independent of the golden one, to induce the Sultan to surrender a part of his dominions into our hands: I shall therefore explain the peculiar situation of his Highness.

* It may perhaps be not unworthy of remark, that on the *very day* last autumn, on which I was making my notes respecting the above disquisition, which had long occupied my attention, there appeared in the English papers, the copy of a letter extracted from the Paris papers relative to the expediency of colonizing Mauritania, from the southern shores of France, beginning by the total expulsion of that notorious band of Algerine pirates from their strong hold, and thence by gradual steps to occupy the whole of that fertile and beautiful country on the northern side of the great Atlas mountains, under the plea of exterminating a troublesome general enemy to Europe, (the Algerines then at variance with France) and the right of seizing on a country abounding in the gifts of nature, almost unheeded by a people not sufficiently populous to own so vast a territory to the exclusion of those in want. The proposition was truly worthy of the school of Napoleon, and in several subsequent letters the plan was continued. It may be remembered, that Ali Bey was turned out of the kingdom of Marocco, as a supposed agent of the Prince of the Peace, examining into the state of the country during the year of Trafalgar; it is, however, more generally believed that he was employed in this service at the instigation of the French Emperor, who no doubt saw the policy of seizing so valuable an acquisition, both as regarded the trade of France with Africa, and as concerned that desirable object the taking of Gibraltar.

Sultan Muley Abrachman stands in that predicament in which all illegitimates do, who having broken the line of succession to mount another's throne, find that their success alone will entitle them to approbation, while the reverse for ever condemns them as execrable usurpers. For while his own followers declaim upon the validity of the late Muley Solyman's will, leaving him heir to the crown, they nevertheless are candid enough to declare that unless he had obtained the Treasury chest with the will, he would have failed in his endeavour to justify himself from the imputation of an usurper. Since that period his reign has been continually troubled with repeated insurrections, whose plea has invariably been the cause of legitimacy. Besides these various rebellions, he has to contend with another still more powerful enemy, the Sheriffes of the empire, whom he is obliged to overcome rather by gold than iron; and this licentious and daring body of persons, professing sanctity and claiming royalty, knowing the peculiarity of the present Sultan's situation, are continually reminding him of their disagreeable presence, of which nothing but a remuneration for the *honour* of their visit can rid him. These calls upon his purse, added to the expenses of his harem establishments, and his troops, have reduced the finances of his treasury to a very low ebb; and though liked by his people generally, Muley Abrachman feels the insecurity of his footing, and the uncertainty of his son's succession; while to secure the one, and guarantee the other, our

money and assistance might prove available in no slight degree, when we remember, that what by this country would be considered as a trifling sum for so valuable an acquisition as the cession to us of a territory in Barbary, would by the Moors be looked upon as almost endless wealth. The Sultan cannot but feel how advantageous would be the filling of his coffers, in his present critical and impoverished state; and by binding ourselves to supply him with warlike stores, and to render him our assisstance in seating him more firmly on his tottering throne, and securing the succession of his son, we should most effectually gain his confidence. Added to these weighty arguments would be those of the regeneration of the sinking trade of his country, by our carrying into Barbary those goods, which the Moors (not being a nautical people) now procure at great expense from Gibraltar.

Against these arguments will of course be found opposed the fears of a barbarous people, and the prejudice of religion; but I am nevertheless of opinion that the present Sultan, who is a man of shrewd sense, and far from being a bigot, would be well inclined to receive a handsome compensation for the surrender of Tetuan into our hands, when shewn how likely it is that some other nation, under the plea of establishing the late Sultan's family on the throne, may gain an unwelcome footing in his country. Tetuan being a most radical and insubordinate town, constantly setting at naught the Sultan's authority, he would feel less compunction in surrendering it into our hands.

The policy of establishing the present Sultan's family firmly on the throne, and securing the succession, is obvious to all who are acquainted with our relations with Tripoli and Algiers. At the former of these places, which is governed by an hereditary Bashalic, we are not only respected as an ally, but beloved as an nation. At the latter place (Algiers) the ephemeral period of the Dey's power, prevents, of course, as in all countries where the government is solely lodged in the hands of the sovereign, that durability of faith, so necessary for the observance of treaties.

During this digression from the path of my journal we were struggling day after day with the same foul north-east gale. The sea got up, and as we stood off and on shore, the stench of the disturbed bilge-water, (of which our vessel was full) added to the horror of being cooped up in our filthy cabin during fourteen days. In all situations, however, some sources of amusement are to be found by those whose minds are not bent, (as I have known many) on self annoyance. Nor is there a more mistaken idea, than that the observance of trifles is the proof of a little mind; on the contrary, the active mind is never satisfied, and dwells rather on the merest trifles than lie dormant for want of more important objects. Without thence wishing to lay particular claim to activity of mind, I must confess that much amusement was afforded me by the co-partners of our confinement, a large English tom cat, a thieving Genoese cabin boy, of eccentric man-

ners, an old Tunisian hen, and my little owl. The cat and the hen both laid claim to the same nest in the cabin, in which the latter daily deposited, at the precise hour of two, a pledge of her illicit amours amongst her many feathered admirers, which fluttered about the upper deck, after which, her feline partner regained his seat in the disputed nest, until the old lady's tongue at the usual hour not only brought to her assistance the Genoese boy, but reminded us of the philosophical warning that "we had lived another day." My little owl in a short time became quite reconciled to its confinement, and fed eagerly from my hand; he twice made his escape from the cage, but I found him each time by his cries of rage and fear at the sight of the tom cat, who stood ready to pounce upon him, while, with one claw raised, and its large dazzling eyes keenly fixed at its antagonist, it awaited the attack, which even the ferocious cat feared to commence. Our cabin boy, under the appearance of an idiot, concealed a most thievish disposition, for which little peccadillo, he made ample amends to his conscience by his zeal in lighting a small lamp hanging in a niche occupied by an *exact* representation of Nostra Senora, in sky-blue drapery, surrounded by a flight of little cherubims all wings and eyes much resembling my owl. Like all Italians, whose propensity for talking is so violent that rather than not indulge in this habit, from want of a listener, they will address their conversation even to inanimate objects; he was continually

holding colloquy with the old hen, the biscuits in the locker, the tom cat, or the owl. The former of these seemed perfectly to understand him, and regularly each day applied for his assistance to expel the tom cat from her nest, into which Dame Partlet suffered herself to be placed, while her protector seated himself by her side during the period of her confinement, amusing her with his desultory conversation. One could almost imagine that the two were equally intellectual. We soon found, however, that the boy to the number of his acquaintance, had added that of our white sugar, with which he became more communicative than with all the others; and by these repeated visits, in one of which we detected him in the very act, our stock was exhausted before we had finished our voyage.

We had stood out to the westward for some days, hoping to meet a favourable breeze, but the north-east wind continued to blow uninterruptedly until the fourteenth day, when it suddenly died away. On the 16th day a westerly wind sprang up. Our Captain, whose navigating powers did not extend beyond the finding of his latitude, fairly owned that he did not know how far he *might* be to the westward; he kept indeed a sort of dead reckoning, but as he only hove his log about every four hours, and as his vessel made as much leeway as an old cask, he confessed that his method of ascertaining his longitude might be rather incorrect, and he laid all the blame on *questi bestia di mare,* into which he

never had before strayed, and which he pronounced very different from the Mediterranean, where longitude was of no use, for that he knew every head-land in it, and that he had but to creep from one to another, and if it did come on to blow, there was always some port to leeward to run to. When I heard this candid avowal, I must say I felt not a little glad that we were at last blessed with a fair wind, as a continuance of bad easterly weather, would in all probability have placed us on the rocks of Madeira. By the Captain's dead reckoning we were to have made Cape St. Vincent in four-and-twenty hours, providing our wind continued. It did so, but still no land appeared, and on we stood; the Captain looked anxiously and dubiously at the chart, to satisfy himself that we could not by any chance have entered the Mediterranean by any *other* route than the accustomed one, for he declared he must have passed Cape St. Vincent. The day following, however, we spoke a Spanish latteen boat, who gave us our course and distance to Gibraltar. It then appeared that the Captain had been a hundred and eighty miles out of his reckoning: thus had we experienced bad weather from the westward. There is no saying on what part of Spain we might have been wrecked; luckily, however, we made the Straights the next day, and at at nine o'clock in the evening found ourselves becalmed off Tangiers. At eight the next morning we were steering for the anchorage. The rock of Gibraltar arose in all its singularity of shape before our delighted

eyes: long absence from an enlightened people, severe sickness, and the agreeable associations of former happy scenes, combined to make the sight before us the most interesting one I ever beheld. After being nearly back-strapped by the Captain's obstinacy in his care to steer clear of the pearl rock, we anchored in the quarantine ground at one o'clock, and to our dismay were told we were condemned to five days quarantine. Soon after, however, arrived an order for our immediate release, as two of the regiments of the garrison were on the point of going to Portugal. Arrived on shore, a thousand sources of delight awaited me. The meeting with my most excellent brother officers; the pleasing union of hearts and hands with my many acquaintances, who had heard and believed that I was dead; my promotion inthe army; the contents of five months packets of letters; and the thoughts of returning health; were subjects that for several days fed the most rapturous dream of my life.

CHAPTER XX.

Brief Account of Gibraltar; its Situation, Climate, Amusements, &c. including some Remarks on Tetuan, from Observations made by the Author during a Visit to that Place on a Party of Pleasure.

As there are many who believe the rock of Gibraltar, to be literally what its name imports, a barren rock swarming with monkeys, mosquitos and soldiers, where there is barely space enough to turn round, without entangling your sword in your neighbour's legs; and, as ill-grounded prejudice amongst officers of our army, but too often places it on a footing with the worst quarters in our colonies, I shall here endeavour, by a short account of it, to vindicate this defamed military nursery.

Gibraltar, the true derivation of whose name would puzzle, I imagine, even antiquarians to ascertain, has very probably been so called from a corruption of the Moorish words Gibbel Hudder, or green mountain, which, in former times, when, as we are told, it was covered with wood, rendered this appellation even more applicable than at present, though even now, its high state of vegeta-

tion to the very summit of the mountain asserts its title, however erroneous the conjecture, to the name of Gibbel Hudder.

The whole extent of the rock is hardly three miles in length, or a mile at the broadest part. To the north it is connected with Spain by a dead flat isthmus of sand, which has, evidently, in early ages been covered by water, but is yearly increasing its heightby the drift-sand, which daily accumulates from the bay, by the force of the westerly wind. This end of the rock is the most imposing aspect it presents. To the dizzy height of three thousand feet, the white lime-stone cliff, shoots lightly, and fountainlike, in perpendicular jets from the stagnant level of the sands, to where its "cloud-capt" head is crowned at the very apex of a cone, by the all-triumphant efforts of aspiring man, who has here planted his engines of destruction. About half-way up this awful precipice, where thousands of hawks are floating on the light and subtle element, are situate the caverns of thunder—the galleries. These are too well known to require a minute description; suffice it to say, that, no where has human ingenuity, labour, and expense been so combined in the accomplishment of a nearly useless undertaking. After a few discharges from these port-holes, the galleries become so suffocating for want of ventilation, that they are obliged to be abandoned. Let it not, however, be supposed, that they are of no service; their very name carries its terror into Spain, as their appearance inspires wonder in the

mind of the passing stranger. The eastern side of the rock, which is washed by the Mediterranean waters, is in most places as precipitous as the northern end; at the foot, however, of the overhanging crags, whose falling masses have gradually formed an easier slope, near the water's edge, is imbedded a most picturesque village, called Catalan. A small and convenient bay for boats, presents a refuge for the smuggler and fisherman, which are two classes that form the society of this place, which is governed by an officer, and a detachment from the garrison.

At the base of the mountain side to the westward, is a considerable extent of level ground, upon which the town of Gibraltar is built. It has, however, in latter years crept gradually up the steep bank of the hill, until a variety of zigzag roads and stone steps have been found necessary to assist the foot passenger in reaching his habitation.

To the south of the town lie the public gardens or Alaméda, of considerable extent, and exquisite beauty. The softness of the climate at Gibraltar is such, that the trees are hardly three months deprived of their foliage, the varied brilliancy of which produces a most enchanting *coup d'œil*. Two Chinese pavilions are placed at convenient distances, affording retirement from the heat of the sun; and sentries are posted at various points, to prevent any mutilation of the trees or flowers by the public, who are allowed to wander about these gardens unmolested. Marble seats, and

rustic chairs of uneasy-notoriety, beneath the thick shade of a species of white maple, are every where to be found tenanted by hard sitters, and refugee Spanish patriots, who here endeavour to eke out their short-lived permit,* and smother the recollection of a faithless despot, an enslaved country, and the murder of a family, in long curling clouds of that soothing herb so admirably prepared by one Squintum, of one-eye cigar-making celebrity, whose halfpenny rolls of consolation are well known to those who have tarried at the rock; as are also his house, no larger than a cigar-box; his nightingale; and last, though not least in the list of his possessions, his pretty daughter, whose small white hand it was thought gave a charm to the *tournure* of the narcotic roll. But to return to the garden. The walks, and geranium hedges, are kept in the greatest order, and an extensive parade ground, surrounded by walks and trees, spread over a level space, where may be seen to evaporate at almost all hours of the day, the excess of military zeal, beneath the melting influence of a most implacable sun, which here seems to concentrate its fiercest rays, upon the devoted head of the raw subaltern on his initiation into the mysteries of the goose-step. Below this military gridiron, a few small green fields slope easily down to the sea-lines of fortification. But a few years since, these beautiful gardens were not in being; a barren waste of sand and rock occupied their present situation. Two

* Permission to remain in the Garrison.

well macadamized roads lead you to the southern parts of the rock, both shaded by over-hanging trees. It were in vain to attempt to describe exactly the various beautiful spots, where nature and art have united to please the senses; at every turn some sweet landscape in miniature attracts the eye. Here, a clematis-embowered cottage, overhung by the frowning craggs, peeps from out a cluster of flowering shrubs and trees: There a little castellated mansion, seated on a table-rock, with perpendicular sides, commands a deep indent, whose rough surface bristles with the green and pointed aloe; while the more fertile depths below, give nourishment to the elegant banana, and a thousand plants of fragrance and beauty.

Europa flats, as the southermost parts of Gibraltar is called, comprises a large extent of easy sloping and flat surface, of a rocky bed, deeply honey-combed with large cavities capable of containing sufficient soil to make these flats produce enough vegetable nourishment for the whole garrison in case of a siege. I once had the honour of discussing, with an officer of distinction at Gibraltar, the great advantage that would accrue to the garrison, were these stony flats covered with the mould and scavengering, that is dug from the foundations of the houses in town, and collected in the streets; when he assured me, that the idea had not escaped the Governor, but that, upon his commencing the work, another department had represented to him the impropriety of such a proceeding, as tending to facilitate the movements

of invading troops, in consequence of which the work had been abandoned. This excess of military caution might be praise-worthy allowing (which it is difficult to do) that an invading enemy is likely ever to be found treading over this ground. It appeared to me, as it will to all who have seen the *locale*, that an architect might as reasonably object to placing steps to your street-door, on the score of impeding the ingress of a house-breaker.

At the back of the rock, to the eastward, is the Governor's summer residence, offering, however, nothing remarkable in its construction or situation, being a low, ill-built, half-stone, half-wooden building. On Europa flats, Sir George Don has erected a very handsome hospital, of lofty, cool, and capacious wards, intended as a reserve against the breaking out of any dangerous fever; where the sick may be nursed without the least fear of infecting the other parts of the rock; but, thanks to his watchfulness and good arrangements, he has made his own foresight unavailable, as it has never yet been used for the intended purpose. The situation of this building is the one the most appropriate, in my opinion, for the Governor's summer residence. Its exposure to the eastern and western breezes, renders it the coolest situation of the two, and, with no great trouble, the now uncouth, barren surface of the flats might have been laid out into meadows and pleasure grounds, affording a relief to the eye of the sea-

girt scorpion,* and preventing for the future, (in case of a siege) a recurrence of those deprivations, of which we read in some officer's journal, when onions sold at a shilling a root. This, however, (independant of my proposition to fertilize the flats) can never again be the case, for cultivation has within these late years extended itself most rapidly. The great demand for fruit and vegetables, in the market, has encouraged a number of Genoese to lay out gardens on every patch of rock to be purchased or hired, and by dint of accumulating manure, and scavengering, they have succeeded in covering the rocky bed with a very substantial layer of earth. This, however, is not wanted on all parts of Gibraltar, where there are many parts of great natural depth of soil. The Naval Commissioner's house is built on one of these; it comprehends several acres of excellent soil, well wooded, with a great variety of fruit, and ornamental trees. The house, for want of a tenant, (the Commissioner generally residing at Malta) is sadly out of repair, but the grounds about it are very beautiful.

The Cave of St. Michael is one of the lions of Gibraltar, and as it is about two thirds of the way up the mountain-side, it is one of the most disagreeable lions to have to shew to a passing friend. During my residence at the rock, the officers of the garrison subscribed to light up, with candles, the interior of this beautiful place.

*Name given to the natives of the rock.

Some thousands of lights, attached to iron hoops, glimmered through the immense space, whose roof is finely vaulted with natural arches, and in many parts supported by pillars of *stallactite* formation. The sight was truly gratifying, and reminded me of my early *beau ideal* of the robber's cave in Gil Blas. The scene was rendered even more wild by the repeated echo of a military band, playing the peculiar music of Der Frieschutz. No one has ever been bold enough, or rather fool enough, to ascertain the extent of this cave, which by the vulgar, is believed to extend under the straits to Apes Hill on the Barbary coast, and by this route, they also affirm that the monkeys enter Gibraltar, where this likeness of man is indigenous.

It is worthy remark, that these animals have never been got to breed on the adjoining Andalusian mountains, nor in any other part of Europe. They are protected at Gibraltar, by military law, and consequently very tame. Troops of them may be seen at any time sitting, chattering by the road-side, laying deep designs for the plunder of some fig-tree. There is one amongst them of a very superior size; he stands, or rather sits, upwards of three feet high, and has received from the garrison, the dignified appellation of *town-major*. As this venerable old gentleman has been seen almost every day during these eight years to my knowledge, it would be curious to ascertain the natural period of a monkey's life. When caught by the Moors on Apes Hill, these creatures become very tame and sociable. They have,

however, been known to escape occasionally from the chain of slavery, and make for the heights, anticipating, no doubt, a kind reception from those of their own species enjoying the blessings of freedom; but alas, monkeys, like men, are but too apt to shun the persecuted wretch, and the old town major on these occasions, refuses the necessary permit, shrinking with horror from the base slave who has grown weary of his chain; so that the poor refugee is fain to return to his owner, and submit himself to the mercy of this tyranny. One of our officers had one of these apes, the most good-natured and sagacious one I have ever seen; he had a knack of knitting his brows, while employed in anything he found difficult to accomplish, or comprehend, that gave his countenance an intelligence quite human.

The town of Gibraltar has increased in size most wonderfully, within these few late years. The enormous profits on the contraband trade, carried into Spain, has made Gibraltar one of the most mercantile towns in the Mediterranean, and with the increase of wealth has arisen the desire for luxury, which has induced the merchants to build handsome houses, and keep up appropriate establishments. I remember when, but a few years ago, the governor's carriage was almost the only vehicle of the kind on the rock, but now every opulent merchant rolls out in the evening in his barouche or tilbury, and a regular stage coach conveyance is established between the Rock and St. Roque, in Spain. The streets have been laid

out with more attention to public convenience and health, well paved and lighted, and regularly cleansed twice a day of all nuisance and dirt, by a scavengering department, which is strictly attended to. By these means the town has become a remarkably neat, comfortable place of residence, and nothing can exceed the high state of health of the people. Since the arrival of Sir George Don, the Lieutenant Governor at that place, it has not been visited by any sickness. The first care of that sensible person was the opening, cleansing, and repairing of the sewers of the town, which, from their choaked state, had been the means of annually breeding a fever. To re-capitulate the various benefits conferred on the garrison of Gibraltar by the tasteful and energetic improvements of Sir George Don, would be nearly as endless as the minute description of the *locale* of that singular place, where every foot of ground owns some share of his protecting hand: the beautiful roads, gardens, promenades, and plantations, will do honour to his unremitting attention to public comfort and convenience, long after he has ceased to be their guardian; and the soldier who may one day be cooped up in this little paradise by a siege, will sincerely thank him who has made his prison so agreeable a retreat. Each year brings with it some new plan of improvement, so that the mechanism of a watch is not a more compact piece of art than this little kingdom, where the strictest military duty is enforced, and where the young soldier learns the first principle of his pro-

fession—punctuality, better than in any other colony or garrison in the world.

Amongst the few improvements of public benefit still wanting to perfect this almost impregnable fortress, is a plentiful supply of fresh water; an article of necessity and convenience, the abundant use of which conduces in all hot climates to the health of the inhabitants. Gibraltar is at present supplied by wells, into which the leak of the rock in the rainy season is collected; but this, though fostered with care, is often barely sufficient for the consumption of the garrison, and entirely depends upon the quantity of rain which falls during the rainy season, or rather upon the continuance of wet weather, by which the water is enabled to soak into the clefts of the rock.

It appears to me, that no expense would be too great to lavish, in affording the free and unlimited use of this essential article of life; and there are two means by which it might be effected. The one, by constructing a most extensive tank near the public gardens, capable of containing an almost unbounded supply; and, the other, by introducing the water from some excellent spring lately discovered within our lines on the neutral ground, by means of a subterranean aqueduct of a sufficient depth and strength to prevent its being cut off by any sudden attack of an enemy; though the proximity of the springs to the guns of the rock would sufficiently prevent the possibility of even such an attempt, and still more so of any continued work of destruction. Which of these

two might be effected with least expense I am not capable of deciding. It appears to me the latter. The former, however, would have the advantage, by its situation of supplying with equal ease both ends of the rock, and also the public gardens, which would be greatly benefited by its neighbourhood. The cost, however, of either method would, I imagine, be amply defrayed in a few years by a tax on the inhabitants, who are now obliged to undergo an inconceivable expense in providing themselves with water from the neutral ground, by means of mule carriage.

The climate of Gibraltar is decidedly a very healthy one, and during the winter and spring months, a very agreeable one; the greatest drawback to it being the cloudy cap which overhangs the rock during an easterly wind. This, however heavy it causes the air to feel to weak lungs or diseased liver, is often a great protection from the violent heat of the mid-day sun in summer. During the continuance of this wind, most people are overcome by a nerveless lassitude of body and mind. Wine bottled off at such a time, turns sour, gold lace turns black, from its damp, meat becomes soon putrid, and even the monkeys leave their haunts, and come low down the mountain to the western side, to shun the baneful breeze. Various philosophical reasons have been assigned as the cause of this cloud-collecting capacity of the rock of Gibraltar; but for the information of those whose minds are not equally clouded with speculative theories, I shall here venture to as-

sert that the particular shape and height of the rock combine to create a species of whirlwind of currents, from which the dense vapour of the Levant wind is unable for a short time to escape; and thus, being collected, forms a dark cloud. They who know the peculiar form of this half-mountain, and have ever watched the progress of the thousand beautiful circles into which the vapour is wreathed around its rugged brow, during a Levanter; will find little difficnlty in accepting this explanation of what at first sight appears so extraordinary.

The sources of amusement at Gibraltar are more various than prolific. A pack of fox-hounds turns out twice a week during the season, followed by many who can (but more who cannot) ride. But, however, notwithstanding the number of foxes, and their unstopped earths, (which are death to a long run) the adventures of the day are as merrily canvassed over the bottle as those of Melton. A small theatre, in which a very tolerable company of Spanish players are generally to be found, affords amusement to the lovers of the Spanish tongue; here, also, the amateur performers of the garrison are in the habit of exhibiting their dramatic powers. During the winter, garrison balls are held at the library rooms. These were but badly attended, owing to a very mistaken notion of dignity on the part of the military, who have always scorned the society of the mercantile part of the community at this place; by which the society had been under a

continual restraint. Upon our arrival there, we set our faces against this illiberality, and I was deputed by the regiment as their committee-man, to bring about a reform. It is difficult to imagine the strength of opposition I had to overcome, and the number of enemies I made in the faithful discharge of my duty amongst the military fair sex or Amazons, many of whom declared their firm determination of never again dancing at these balls; others would not give their hands in the dance to any lady but an Amazon; and all joined in declaring the balls would be given up, but alas! neither the threats nor the prophecies of those who were that night made *wall-flowers*, were able to stem the current of mercantile new comers, which poured into the rooms upon the commencement of the season, since which, the fair aristocrats have been obliged (after a few vain endeavours to regain their dominion) to lay aside their arms, and make common cause with the respectable classes of the merchants. This union of all parties has formed a larger and more agreeable society of that which before was neither one nor the other.

Rowing, riding, and shooting, are the chief pastimes of the garrison, and a cricket club, and racket court sum up the list of Gibraltar attractions.

There is but little game to be found in the vicinity of the rock; the sportsmen are therefore obliged to seek it on the Barbary coast, where it abounds. Tetuan, or as the Moors call it Tetauon,

is the resort of those who follow this sport. During the winter of 1825, I joined a party to go to this place. We laid in a stock of provisions for three weeks, and went on board a Genoese beef boat, as those are termed which supply Gibraltar with cattle from the Barbary coast. We had been detained several days, by contrary winds which had at last turned to a strong north-wester, but it blew so hard that the Captain declared his determination of not putting to sea. It was in vain we used all the means of gentle persuasion, to induce him to weigh anchor; so convinced did he seem of the inability of the Santa Maria to weather the gale. I therefore tried what ridicule could effect, and it succeeded, for after calling the Genoese land lubbers who were all afraid of bad weather, the fellow called upon all the saints he could remember to vouch for his courage; swore in every *Patois* between Genoa and the rock; stamped about the deck like a maniac; threw down his jacket and jumped on it; beat out the crown of his hat upon the stock of the spare anchor; and, having thrown it over-board, immediately got under weigh, declaring he was no more afraid to die than ourselves. Once before the wind, under snug canvass, he soon saw how vain had been his fears, and as the Santa Maria danced merrily along the racing waves, the Captain, with that ready return of good humour for which his countrymen are proverbial, laughed and joked about the fate of his best beaver.

Six hours brought us to the mouth of the Te-

tuan river; which having a bar of sand across it, is impassable at low water (as it then was.) We anchored our little boat, and awaited the return of day, to enter the river. Having ob-obtained permission from the Basha of Tetuan to land on the following morning, we accordingly repaired on shore at an early hour, and took up our abode in some apartments, belonging the English Vice Consul, (a Jew) which were situated over a custom-house, standing on the bank of the river's mouth. This river, in summer a mere stream, is navigable for barges only beyond the custom-house towards the town, a distance of about four miles in a direct line. The surrounding country consists of an extensive plain, bounded by a range of beautiful mountains, which Ali Bey imagined to be connected with the minor chain of the Atlas, near Marocco. On a southern slope of one of these, and at the gorge of a mountain pass to the eastward, is built the town of Tetuan, judiciously placed as commanding the above-mentioned pass, the only approach to the interior from the coast, and the only route by which an enemy from the interior could attempt to surprise the fertile country around the town. As regards the healthfulness of the situation, nothing can surpass it; exposed as it is to a continued current of air from the east or west, it enjoys a most temperate climate.

Tetuan may be said to contain between forty and fifty thousand inhabitants, one half of which, at least, are Jews. It boasts of nothing different

from other Moorish towns in point of structure. It is surrounded by a wall of no very great thickness, on the summit of which are planted some crazy pieces of ordnance, which by the Moors are thought very terrfic, as they have been several times made subservient to the ambition of rebel Bashas, who have generally succeeded in setting the Sultan's power at defiance for a time, until treachery, or blind faith in the promises of pardon which Sultans are never known to keep with their subjects, have brought them to the bastinado. As Tetuan is so far from the seat of Government, and is possessed of such natural advantages, its inhabitants are a very radical set. The town is well-watered by excellent streams and springs, and contains many large houses of a better style of architecture than those of Tangiers.

Tetuan was governed by a Basha, at that time in the person of Hash Hash, whom I have already mentioned. He is a man of great shrewdness, and has a turn for splendour. In his person he is short and fat, and his complexion is deeply marked with the small-pox, but to a good set of features is added the lustre of a pair of dark hazel brown eyes, of wonderful vivacity and expression, which contrasted singularly with the *vis inertiæ* which seemed to root his leaden frame to his cushioned seat beyond the power of motion. He received us with some little state in the garden of his palace, where, in front of an orange grove, he had ensconced himself in a small open alcove, with a minister and secretary on either side, whose

pretensions to the attributes of the fat kind, were as undoubted as those of their master. Having already sent our little conciliatory offerings, consisting of some tea, sugar, broad cloth, and japanned tea trays, (the latter of which are held in high estimation by their women), we were invited to seat ourselves in the alcove, while the Jewish representative of Great Britain, trembling with fear before the keen glance of the Basha, acted the part of interpreter between us. His Highness, after many neatly turned compliments, promised us his protection while we remained in the country, and appointed a Caid to attend us in our sport to shew us the best covers for game. Some excellent tea, and a variety of preserves and cakes, then made their appearance on the head of a black eunuch, who, having set down the tray on the floor, made three salaams, bowing his head to the earth, and then backed out of the presence. In the centre of the chequered black and white pavement of the marble floor, was a small murmuring fountain of the clearest spring-water, which at any other time than the present (a cold day in November) would have added greatly to our entertainment, but it was now an inducement for us to hurry over our interview, by swallowing with more haste than discretion, our scalding tea.

During our residence at the custom-house we had an opportunity of witnessing the wonderful progress of a deluge in a mountainous district of this country. We had retired to rest one night at eleven o'clock, when the weather exhibited no

signs of an approaching storm. Towards twelve o'clock, however, a sudden explosion of the three volatile elements aroused us from our slumber: between the howling wind and the terrific bursts of thunder which succeeded each other with amazing rapidity, it seemed doubtful which would first level our mud-built house to the foundation; whilst an increasing glare of vivid lightning, shooting through the narrow loop-holes of our tenement, served rather to warn us that water was the enemy most to be feared; for the unresisting quality of our mud-walls soon yielded to the torrents of rain that spouted from every point of the heavens, and kept us continually employed during the night in shifting our beds from one part of the floor to another, to avoid the encroaching influx which dropped from the cracks of our sun-baked roof. The violence of the hurricane, however, soon subsided, and vented its gusty rage in floods of tears. At an early hour on the following morning, upon peeping through the loop-holes, we discovered the dreadful effects of the late storm. The small patch of rising ground on which the custom-house stood, was completely insulated by a sheet of water four feet deep, covering the whole plain to the base of the neighbouring mountains, and bearing on its turbid surface the varied wreck of the adjoining country.

The meandering tract of the tranquil stream, that had on the preceding evening glided so smoothly within its narrow channel, might now be traced writhing in mighty folds, like some

huge serpent, through the wide sea around it, and drawing within its vortex the larger masses of those lighter materials of vegetation, which the force of attraction had collected in their drifting course. Thus many *a chip of the old block* might be seen rallying around the parent log, and many a straw placing its dependence on a broken reed. The vessels lying in the river the evening before, were now riding at anchor in an open sea, and upon the subsiding of the waters were left hard and fast upon the dry land, many fathoms from the banks of the river. In a very few hours this prodigious accumulation of water had entirely disappeared; the truant river, as if exhausted by its late efforts, again sunk back within its muddy banks. The black moor hen regained its rushy haunts, and the milk-white heron was feasting on those of the finny race, which the deceitful flood had left struggling in muddy pools over the surface of the country. The sudden irruption of the flood as well as its departure, was marked by its victims, the hares and rabbits that lay drowned on the plain, which was enriched by an alluvial deposit nearly a foot thick. This unfavourable state of the ground for sporting, put an end to our further progress in that pastime, and we therefore prepared to return to Gibraltar, and for that purpose engaged for our passage on board the Buena Ventura, a felucca bound to the rock.

The lavish propensities of our purse-proud countrymen, have, it is well known, given us in all parts of the world, the credit of being inexhausti-

ble in our pecuniary supplies. This is, perhaps, the greatest drawback from the pleasure of travelling in foreign countries, to those who are fain to let their left hand know what their right hand gives away. In Spain, an Englishman has to fight as stoutly in asserting his poverty as in defending his riches, so convinced do the people of that country feel that John's pocket is possessed of the same replenishing property as the purse of Fortunatus. No sooner had we made known our intention of departure, than we were beset on every side by both Moors and Jews in common alliance to grow rich at our expense, while in sharing the prize-money, the Moor invariably pounced upon half the Jew's gain, as a tax upon the Israelite for his permission to pillage their common guest the Christian. During a most violent altercation between two Jews for the possession of a farthing, which might have ended in bloodshed, had not a Moorish soldier decided the dispute by beating severely both the combatants and pocketing the bone of contention, we took the opportunity offered to us of taking our unobserved departure, and jumping on board the Buena Ventura, pushed her from the shore, as a gentle south-wester swelled the sails, and aided her to drop down to the mouth of the river. Having passed the castle, a large square building, crowned at the four corners with dome-roofed towers, and planted with cannon, we stood out to sea. The morning was clear and fine, and as the wind freshened, our Felucca glided swiftly along

the yet unbroken level of her watery way, while the bold outlines of the Tetuan mountains faded from the eye, and the white cliffs of the pointed rock became the object of our anticipation. No sooner had we shot past the rugged head land, of Ceuta's heights, than the wind was found to sweep in angry squalls along the troubled surface of the irritable straights, and our little vessel, now under close-reefed sails, struggled hard to weather the freshening gale. The current of the straights, aided by the westerly wind, combined with a chopping sea to set us so much to leeward, that it became necessary to make several boards to windward before we could venture into the mid-channel of the stream, by which delay, the evening wore fast away before we finally made for the rock, and the pale sickly sun hurried to rest behind a curtain of dark and windy clouds. The disagreeable motion of the Felucca, soon sent me below a victim to its sickening effects, where I crept into the Captain's stinking birth, and endeavoured to forget my present misery, in my hopes of a speedy release, until I fell asleep.

A hurried noise of feet and voices over my head aroused me from my slumber, and hearing some difference of opinion between the Captain and his crew, as to the feasibility of weathering Europa point, to double which it was necessary in order to enable us to reach the anchorage, and perceiving that the confusion increased, I crept from my hiding place and sprang upon deck, when the unexpected danger of our situation was but too

apparent to the eye of *one* accustomed to naval affairs. The point which the Captain was desirous of weathering lay right a-head of us about sixty yards distant. The wind would not allow of the vessel's being closer hauled, and to every two yards she made of head way, a boisterous sea and a violent current were setting her a foot to leeward of her course; under such circumstances it was impossible she could double the head land before us. I instantly called to the Captain, pointing out the madness of attempting it, bidding him to put his helm hard down, and go about while he had room enough left him, or he must infalliably run on the rocks; but his anxiety to reach the anchorage of the bay before night, had blinded his better sense, and he hastily replied, that he would still try it. For a few seconds he clung to hope of success, but the dreadful conviction of the truth of my warning, rushed suddenly into his mind, and he put his helm hard down. It was now, however, too late; the felucca had been kept so close to the wind that she had not sufficient way on her to stem the fury of head sea, she faltered in the wind and then fell off. The helm was immediate shifted to wear her, but we were now so near the rocky cliff that she had not sea-room, and the anchor became our only chance of salvation from instant destruction. Happily, indeed, for us, the tenacious emblem of hope had no sooner reached the bottom, than, guided by the hand of some kind Peri, it hooked in a cavity of the rocky bed

below, and the next moment found us riding, with an almost up and down cable, in a most frightful situation. Within a few yards of our starboard side arose the bold overhanging cliff against which the sea was dashing its fullest force. Close astern lay a sharp, pointed, sunken rock, over which the effervescent waters rose and fell with angry growls, like some huge monster displaying its foaming jaws to a devoted victim.

Our little bark, thus bound by the nose, pitched headlong into each succeeding wave, and rolled so heavily that it was with difficulty we were able to keep our footing; the rigging had become entangled, that the huge latteen yards, totally unrestrained, swung to and fro with prodigious violence, threatening momentarily to dash out our brains; our dogs ran howling about the decks, and the boatmen, who had given themselves up from the first to childish despair, went stamping about the vessel,alternately swearing, praying, calling on all their patron saints with vehemence, beating their breasts, and tearing their hair. One fellow in particular, a Maltese, whose prodigious herculean brawn of shoulders had in the morning excited our admiration, now fell on his knees, and blubbered like a child. The light of day had ceased to enliven the western horizon, and the black clouds which were gathering around the prophetic brow of the Barbary mountains, announced a heavy gale. The fury with which the sea burst around and over the bow of our vessel, forbade the slightest expectation that our

anchor could hold out much longer, and the dreadful alternative of being dashed against the rocks astern of us in the dead of the night, presented indeed a frightful prospect. My companions inquired anxiously of me, as one more conversant with naval tactics than themselves, my opinion of the extent of danger to be apprehended. But little consolation was I prepared to offer them; for the disorder of the felucca, the peculiarity of her situation, and the cowardly despair of our sailors, made me abandon all thoughts of safety; then and there for the first time in my life did I see destruction staring me so fully in the face, that I abandoned all hope, and could only contemplate the idea of a painful death. There is, however, in the worst of conditions a reaction of the mind, which often reanimates it with increased vigour, of which ingenuity is the happy offspring. A sudden thought darted across my mind at this critical moment, and aroused me from the torpor of hopelessness by which I had been overcome; and, with as much avidity as the drowning man catching at a straw, did I seize on the transient chance of salvation. Calling to the Captain, I asked, "What he proposed attempting? he replied, "That he knew not what to do, but hoped that our anchor might yet save us through the night. I then pointed out to him the fallacy of such an idea, and the inevitable death that awaited us, if we parted from our anchor in the dark. I also told him that I had formerly belonged to his profession, and still remembered

something of naval affairs ; that if he and his men would place themselves implicitly under my directions, I would undertake to save them and the vessel.

The Captain was luckily in that state of despair which urges a man to listen to *any* consolation, and he therefore readily agreed to devolve on me the entire command, whereupon, I represented to my companions that I was about to attempt a manœuvre which I hoped might succeed in saving us, but that failing to do so, they must expect to be wrecked on the rock a-stern, but, that as there was not the most distant hope of our being able to ride out the night at anchor, it would, at any rate be preferable that the worst should happen before it became quite dark, as there might then be a chance of saving ourselves by dropping from the mast-head on the rocks, before the vessel would either sink or go to pieces. They unanimously declared their determination of abiding by the consequences whether good or bad of my attempt. Close a-stern as I before-mentioned, lay a sunken rock distant about three yards, and but a few yards further was a rocky cliff crossing our stern and reaching as far as our larboard quarter. The object then was, to get under weigh without making the smallest degree of stern-way, or without drifting bodily to leeward, either of which would send us a wreck on the above-mentioned rocks. For this purpose, then, I ordered the boatmen to run out a rope with a jambing hitch on the cable, by means of a long spar, and by

leading the opposite end of this rope in at the quarter of the vessel, I formed what sailors term, a spring on the cable, by hawling on which, and at the same time slacking the other, the Felucca would be brought to present her broadside to the sea instead of her bow, and consequently in a position ready to make sail with the wind on the beam. The success of this manœuvre, it must be observed, depended greatly upon the Felucca proving lively and gathering weigh the instant she would be loosened from hold, as on the contrary two waves were sufficient to dash her on the cliff. Having arranged this with some difficulty, I stationed a man at the bow with an axe, ready to cut away the cable the instant I should give the signal, and two others stood ready to hoist the jib and mizen. I then anxiously watched for a momentary lull of the sea, and hawled in upon the spring until I brought the vessel's broadside to the wind, at the same time making sail on her. No sooner did I perceive that she felt the weight of her canvass and seemed to struggle for deliverance, than I gave the momentous word of command—*corta*—down went the axe, and the severed cable flew like distended indian-rubber, from the bows. For a few moments, a breathless anxiety for the doubtful issue of the stroke which still sounded in our ears, pervaded every countenance. The scales of life and death were so finely poised, that a hair might have turned the balance in favour of either; never shall I forget the dreadful uncertainty of those few seconds! the looks of those

around me seemed already to reproach me with that rash presumption which threatened only to hasten their destruction. Awhile, the Felucca paused, but fortunately being very light, a violent gust of wind gave the propelling launch, and shooting a-head like a hound slipped from a leash, she cleared the dreaded cliff to leeward and shaving within a few feet of the angry point, bounded into safe water and seemed to dance for very joy at her deliverance. Who was there at that moment amongst us, whose heart did not overflow with thankfulness to the divine will, which had permitted us to escape from a situation, that but a few short minutes before had appeared perfectly hopeless? Another half-hour found us comfortably gathered around the cheerful blaze of the Commandant's hospitable hearth at Catalan. So short had been the whole scene, and so rapid the vicissitude, that I could hardly persuade myself of our real safety, which resembled one of those joyous dreams of imbittered bliss, when the dreamer even in sleep mistrusts the too delicious creations of his sportive fancy.

CHAPTER XXI.

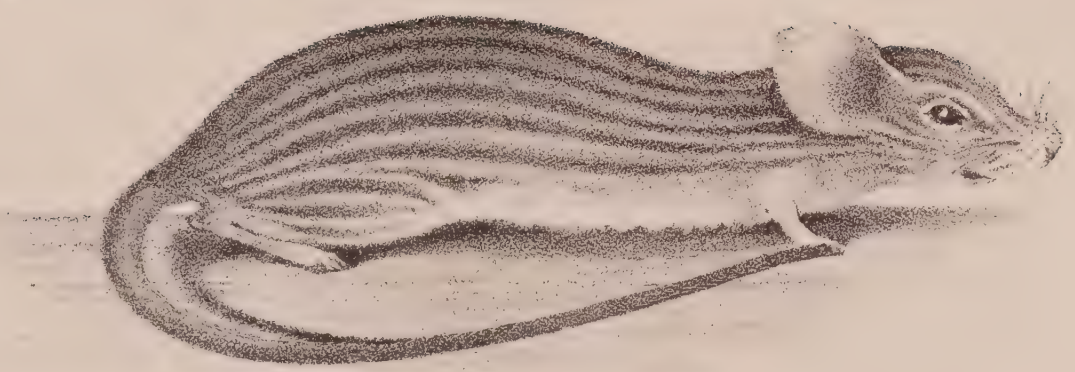
The Royal Welch Fusiliers leave Gibraltar for Lisbon.

The day at last arrived when the Royal Welch Fusiliers were to leave the rock. At two clock, the companies fell in with their usual precision and regularity in heavy marching order, full of health and spirits, and as ardent in their hopes of soon distinguishing themselves, as any body of men could be; never was there a finer, more enthusiastic, well-trained, highly disciplined corps prepared to follow, to any danger, a body of officers as ready to lead them on; never have I witnessed such a general feeling of union as existed between the officers and men of this truly noble corps. At the well known word of command, whcih they have never been known to disobey under any circumstances,—forward—the whole moved off with that smooth firm step for which the regiment is remarkable,* and attended by the cheering multitude, proceeding to the water port landing-place where

* A lady of distinction at Gibraltar, observed that she always recognized the 23d. when passing under the window, by their gentlemanlike step.

they embarked on board of the boats prepared to convey them to the Windsor Castle. I cannot, however, take leave of my brother officers without first expressing my deep regret at being obliged to sever myself from a band of hearts as sincere, warm, and attached, as ever pushed the merry bottle round a mess-table. One character and one feeling of union and fellowship pervaded this unrivalled body of officers. A stranger would have thought they had been culled from the flower of the army; for size, strength, manly beauty, and vigorous health, nothing could surpass them. To see the splendid and truly hospitable board of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, laden with its costly plate, and surrounded by such a blaze of manly perfection, arrayed in the splendid uniform of the corps, and to hear the merry laugh and joke pass round in harmony, while good humour still lurked among the dregs of the last bottle was one of the most exhilarating and gratifying sights that the eye of a British soldier can witness. I must here compliment the commander of the corps Colonel Pearson, upon his admirable system of uniting his officers, by encouraging the social union of the mess-table, without endeavouring to check that liberal and independant conversation which is the foundation of the noble spirit which places the British officer so much above those of other nations, while it incites him from motives of responsibility and personal honour to deeds of superior daring. His determination also to discountenance all

quarrelling, has created a common feeling of disapprobation in the regiment against all dissentions, while the general opinion of the officers against whose judgment there is no appeal, is the arbiter of all momentary differences. How superior is this golden rule for deciding right from wrong to the leaden arguments of the duellist, formerly so much in vogue in the army that every fool who failed by other means to counter-balance the scale of sense and justice, might throw his pistols into the opposite one of ignorance and oppression.



Rat Killed at Marocco



Spider found at Mogadore.

For Description of this Rat, which was striped brown and yellow, Vide page 183.

The accompanying engraving of a Spider is from a drawing I made from life of this insect which I caught at Mogadore, and I have here inserted it on account of its behaviour when taken by me; never have I witnessed so much natural fierceness in so small a body. So far from endeavouring to escape from me, upon being touched from behind with a stick, it turned suddenly round and bit it with the utmost virulence; and when placed on a table, it remained continually facing me, disdaining to run away, and literally rushing on to the attack when any thing approached it. The Moors declared it was venomous. The colour was of an Indian red.

APPENDIX.

A. Vide Page 124.

This species of tarantula is, I imagine, the same as that of which Ali Bey makes mention as having caught one at Marocco, and which he believed to have been a hitherto unknown species, and which he greatly regretted having subsequently lost. Upon arriving in England,* I wished to present this tarantula to the British Museum, but I could not gather any information concerning it, nor indeed were the spiders of that collection ever arranged; I therefore decided upon sending it to the Society at Paris, where pursuits of Natural History are more enthusiastically followed than in this country, and for this purpose I consigned it to the keeping of Monsieur Le Duc de Montebello, who promised to present it to the Society, and afterwards acquaint me with the opinion of that body as to the class to which it belonged; but I much fear that my tarantula has met the same fate as that of Ali Bey's, as the Duc Montebello has never done me the honour of communicating with me, though I since addressed him a note begging to know the issue (whether fortunate or otherwise) of his undertaking.

Appendix, B.

The quotation in question is from a description of the English national character, given by a native to a philosopher, Lucidoro, in a most amusing and clever little Spanish work, entitled La Viage de la Razon. As the work is probably but little known in England, and as I consider its remarks a very fair satire, I have here subjoined the extract from which I have drawn my quotation. " Hallóse alli un Milord mui instruido, y mui amable, que se divertió, y rió á costa de su propio país. ' Nosotros, dixo, somos inconstantes, como el elemento que nos circunda: no tenemos de

estable sino un fondo de taciturnidad, de la que es mui dificil despojarnos. Llegamos á una Ciudad con el ánimo de parmanecer alli seis meses, y salimos de ella al dia siguiente. Esto proviene de una inquietud natural, que nos atormenta, y de la que no podemos librarnos, no obstante todo nuestro fanatísmo en favor de la libertad. En otro tiempo nos amaban por nuestro dinero; pero nos han enganado tantas veces, que nos hemos hecho tan economicos, como desconfiados.

Quisieramos viajar continuamente; y por lo comun, en todos nuestros viages no vemos, ni tratamos sino con Ingleses: Uso ridículo, que nace de una excesiva preocupacion en favor de nosotros mismos, y del temor de que nos traten. Nosotros amamos la Francia, y aborrecemos á los Franceses: aprendemos con todo cuidado su lengua, y solo es para no hablarla. Solo apreciamos nuestro país, y no podemos parar en él: nuestras mismas mugeres corren en busca de otras regiones, dexando su patria. Nosotros á ninguno faltamos; pero estamos siempre sobre el *quién vive*, recelosos de que los demás nos falten. Jamás se hallan entre nosotros deudas, ni querellas; pero no dexamos de tener pesares. Nuestras despedidas son tan secas, como nuestras Ilegadas: dexamos á las mugeres el cuidado de enternecerse.

Si hablamos poco, es porque se nos repite continuamente, que las mugeres son las que nacieron para hablar, y los hombres para pensar. Leemos con mucho gusto; pero en nuestras lecturas, lo mismo que en nuestros modales; preferimos lo singular, y aun lo estrano.

Nosotros no somos humanos; sino parque gustamos del heroísmo; y amamos el placer, sin conocer el deleite. Es mui raro entre nosotros el que aprueba lo que no se asemeja á nuestras leyes, y costumbres; pero nosotros nos conformamos sin violencia á los usos de los otros países, queriendo, esto no obstante, que yá sea en el corte del vestido, y yá en el modo de presentarnos, conozcan que somos Ingleses.

Pocas veces se nos adula, quando nos alaban. Los aplausos entre nosotros tienen algo de baxeza, y abatimiento.

El patriotísmo es nuestra pasion dominante, y la libertad, nuestro elemento; y si se nos trata de entusiastas sobre este

punto, es porque no sabemos el arte de persuadir. Hai siempre entre nosotros algo de austeridad, que disminuye el merito de nuestros sentimientos, y gustos.

Somos capaces de las ciencias mas sublímes, aunque somos demasiado esclavos de nuestros Autores.

Llevamos la amistad hasta el ultimo termino, pero esto es quando estamos asegurados de un amigo por una larga série de anos; y asi sucede, que morimos, por lo comun, antes de lograr nuestra confianza.'"

Appendix C.

A specimen of this stone, which covers all the plain around Marocco, I brought to England, but finding the same difficulty as I did concerning the tarantula, I at last sent it by a servant with some other fossils to a private mineralogist, with strict injunctions to deliver this specimen particularly, for small as it appeared, it was of more consequence than all the rest. But so much caution proved as bad as none, if not worse, for my servant being on the point of leaving my service, his ignorant cupidity was excited by my interest in the stone, and supposing, no doubt, that nothing less valuable than a diamond was contained therein, he neglected delivering it, which I learnt at a subsequent period, when all search after the man or stone were futile.—I can therefore only describe it as a hard close-grained stone of a greyish brown, throughout which are embedded spots of a lighter brown, in form and appearance exactly resembling (except as regards colour) those seen in the marble called the *verde antique*. I have dwelt upon this subject, because it has occurred to me since, whether it be possible that many years exposure of the verde antique to a scorching sun is capable of bleaching out the colour, the specimen to which I allude, may originally have been green, and as I have understood that it is a matter of some doubt whence the Romans drew their supplies of this beautiful marble, it would be curious to, by this method, have traced their researches to the Atlas mountains, where, should my supposition be valid, there are, no doubt, vast quarries of this beautiful marble. White marble is also found in the Atlas mountains, a beautiful specimen of which I was shewn at the harem, in the shape of a flat scollop-carved basin of eleven feet diameter.

Vide Page 260.

I was on the point of abandoning all prospect of procuring a translation of the Letter in question, when, through the kindness of a member of the Royal Oriental Society, I was introduced to Mr. Belfour, also a member of the same society, to whose perfect knowledge of the Arabic in all its varieties, I remain much indebted for the very able translation with which he has presented me, and which does the more honour to his abilities, as a native of Marocco, after having himself endeavoured in vain to effect the translation, finally declared the variety of the Arabic of different countries to be *such*, added to the difference of their styles, that it would be impossible without reference to Paris, to procure a correct translation of this Letter.

Praise belongs to God alone. And there is no Spirit which is not in his possession.

Our Lord and Master the most wise Sultan, the most glorious Prince and Hero! Whose empire may God perpetuate, and under whose dominion may he place the whole world here below, making the felicity of his days everlasting, and reducing within the grasp of his hand the expanded universe, to be subject in all things to his command! May the standard of his justice not cease to be unfolded until the day of resurrection, nor the wheel of fortune leave off turning to his hand; nor the smiling countenance of bliss depart from his company! May the wings of equity continue to be spread over him; and at all times and in all places may he be renovated in glory, and happiness, and joy, and with blissful tidings! After spreading the noble carpet of our salutations and blessings before the Majesty of our Lord, and of our silent prayer and genuflexions towards Almighty God, for our noble master, we took leave of him, to proceed to other parts of his happy country; but having hitherto been unable to find a ship here, we are still looking out for the first occasion. In the meantime, Pedro, the Maltese, one of the merchants of Mogadore, has been to us, and begged and prayed of us to write to our Lord, that he would be pleased to use indulgence towards him,

and be kind to him according to his former kindness, and grant him free safety, and regard; and not suffer him to be confounded with the merchants at Mogadore, and among the Foreigners, according to the custom that has prevailed with them: seeing that he came upon a promise made to him of a distinct privilege. We hope therefore, please God, that our Lord will be merciful to him, and not suffer him to be ill-treated in any way; knowing, as we do, that our Lord cannot consent to any evil action; and praying, that he will be kind to him.

When our brethren and countrymen shall know of the Sultan's kindness, they will grow in love and friendship towards his Highness, and we trust that our Lord will be kind to him, and grant him free safety: and may God grant his Highness a blessing upon his life! Amen, and salutation.

On the 12th of Jemadi el Awwal of the year 1242.

The Caid Beauclerk, and the Caid Murray.

The two Englishmen, by the intermediation of the Interpreter.

Translated from the original Arabic, by F.C. Belfour Esq.M.R.A.S.

Favourable Issue of the above Letter received by the Author from Mogadore, on the 1st of February, 1828.

Translated from the Italian.

Sir,—By the arrival of news to this place coming to Mr. Trepas, of the house of Wiltshire & Co., I learn with pleasure, that you are again restored with health, to the bosom of your noble family, and as I feel convinced that it will give you pleasure to hear of the situation of my present affairs, I have taken the liberty of addressing you this letter to that effect.

The unfortunate affair with which you are well acquainted, has ended by his serene Highness, paying me what was over and above; after the sale of my goods, lately sequestrated at this custom-house, and the distribution of the profit of that sale, amongst my various creditors, which amounted to seventy-five per cent; and as to the remainder of my debts which amounted to about a thousand dollars? His Highness has had the kindness to issue a decree releasing me from all further claims on account of debt.

I am now left without the means of again engaging in commerce, and as I feel persuaded that you will not neglect your promise of using your endeavours to better my condition, upon your arrival in England, and as I fear that you may perhaps forget me, while so far away, I again beg of you to recommend me to some respectable commercial house in London, which will make me a consignment of goods on my own or their account, the amount to be returned to them by the same vessel that brings me the goods, which amount will be in the produce of the country and negro (or Tombuctoo) gold. And should this effort on your part fail, I hope you will be enabled to procure me from the British Governmert some other situation as Vice Consul or even Interpreter in this country, or any other part of Africa, for which my knowledge of the Africans from Cairo to Mogadore, and their language, with which I am perfectly acquainted, renders me a fit person.

This is the moment at which it would be a charity to serve an honest but oppressed man, whose gratitude shall be known to all the world; in the mean time, I transmit you a list of the prices of goods most saleable in this empire, and those fit for exportation to yours; and I now offer you in anticipation of your favours, my sincere thanks for whatever you may hereafter accomplish to my benefit, and anxiously awaiting the honour of your communication, I have the honor to be,

Your very obedient Servant,

PIETRO FELICE MICALLEF.

Mogadore, 1*st December*, 1827.

Prices of foreign Goods and Manufactures calculated in Spanish hard dollars.

	Dollars.
Indian cloth called elefantes of 30 yards the piece, is sold at	5¼
Ditto English of 50 yards in the piece - - - - - - -	5¾
Ditto of Hamburgh, in the piece - - - - - - - - -	4
Coarse cloth, in the piece, of a double thread - - - -	9

	Dollars.
Common cloth, scarlet, green, yellow, and blue, every 100 yds. at,	140

The custom house duty upon the above mentioned articles is 10 per cent. on the value.

	Dollars.
Blue India Muslin of 60 yds. the half piece, sells for	5
White muslin, of 10 yards the piece,	2
Coloured cotton goods with small stripes, per piece	6
Common cotton handkerchiefs of a large size, per hundred at,	16
Fine ditto, ditto,	30
Yellow nankeen, 28 yards in the piece,	8
White ditto, with small stripes,	9
Striped silk handkerchiefs, of China manufacture, per dozen,	10
Fine woollen cloth, scarlet, yellow, light blue, dark blue, and white, per yard,	7
Serge of various colours, per piece of 29 yards,	7
White sewing cotton, in packets of 9lbs., per packet,	9
Sugar, double refined lump, per quintal,	24
Ditto, white, in powder, per ditto.	16
Brown sugar, per quintal,	14
Green tea per pound of 18 ounces,	1½
Green Martinique coffee, per quintal,	15
Pepper, black, per quintal,	15
Cinnamon, sweet, per ditto,	50
Cloves, per ditto,	100
Butchers' knives, with broad blades, made at Amsterdam, with red and yellow handles, per dozen,	100
Bellows, of middling size, per dozen,	10
Buenos Ayres hides, weighing from 31 to 33lbs. each, per quintal,	36
Cochineal, per lb. of 18 ounces,	8

On the preceding articles, duty is paid in cash, at the rate of ten per cent. on the price current.

	Dollars.
Swedish iron, in broad bars sells per quintal for	7½

Dollars.

English ditto, ditto, at, - - - - - - - - - - - - - 5

These two articles pay a duty of 2 dollars per quintal.

Prices of Articles for exportation from this country.

Dollars.

Gum, Senegal, worth per quintal,- - - - - - - - - - 15
Gum, Sandrach, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 12
Cow hides, weighing from 10 to 12℔. each, per quintal, - 4
Calf ditto, 4 to 5℔s. each, per quintal,- - - - - - - - 3

The foregoing articles pay 3 dollars per quintal exportation duty.

Dollars.

Gum, Barbary, per quintal, - - - - - - - - - - - - 4
Almonds, bitter, per ditto,- - - - - - - - - - - - - $4\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto, sweet, per ditto,- - - - - - - - - - - - - - 4

The above articles pay 2 dollars per quintal, exportation duty.

Dollars.

Olive oil, per quintal, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 4

For this article you pay 4 dollars the quintal, exportation duty.

Dollars.

Yellow bees' wax, of the first quality, per quintal, - - - 18

Export duty, 10 dollars.

Dollars.

Goatskins the dozen of 12. - - - - - - - - - - - - $2\frac{1}{2}$

Export duty 1 dollar per dozen.

Dollars.

Ostrich feathers, picked, the ℔. of 18 ounces, - - - - - - 4

Export duty 2 dollars per ℔.

Negro or Tombuctoo gold of the purest quality, for the parcel

weighing 15¼ Spanish pillar dollars, weighing from 200 to 210 oz., each, equal to the value of a doubloon of 13 or 14 dollars, and this article is allowed to be exported, free of duty.

Note.—For your information, the quintal of this place is 8 per cent. more than the English quintal, and our commission is 2½ per cent.

Appendix, D.

It may not be inapplicable here to remark that much of the success of the French in their intercourse with Africa, where their trade is gaining the ascendancy over ours, and that of the Austrians at Constantinople, is owing chiefly to the attention they pay to the acquirement of the Arabic language, for which purpose there are both at Paris and Vienna institutions where the youths of those countries, who are destined for missions of whatever sort, are early prepared for that service, and it is much to be regretted that no such institution in this country places it within our power to cope with our neighbours in our relations with Mahometan countries. Common discernment will be sufficient to convince the observer of these things how superior must be the negociations of an ambassador or consul at a Mahomedan court, who is able personally to communicate with the fountain head of authority, to those of him who is obliged to submit himself to the mercy of an interpreter, who has a thousand *good reasons* for turning your negociations to his own account or that of his highest bidder.

THE END.

PROCTOR, WINE-OFFICE COURT, FLEET-STREET.

ERRATA.

Page 47 line 3, for *silex*, read *ilex*.
— 92 — 4, for *base*, read *vase*.
— 142 — 4, for *muezier's*, read *muezzin's*.
— 144 — 6, for *malavia*, read *malaria*.
— 165 —30, for *set*, read *let*.
— 185 vide note, for *having*, read *learning*.
— 254 line 10, for *cap*, read *captain*.
— 260 — 4, for *bewitching*, read *bestriding*.
— 279 — 21, for *cherubum*, read *cherubims*.